

VALLEY FARMER.

A Monthly Journal of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and Domestic Economy, Adapted
To the Wants of the People of the Mississippi Valley.

VOL. VII.

SAINT LOUIS, AUG., 1855.

NO. 8.

The Valley Farmer.

Delinquents—A Proposition.

There are several hundred dollars due us from our subscribers which we need very much; and we hope it will be remitted without delay. In order to encourage promptness, we propose to all the members of last year's clubs who have not paid up for this year, to still receive their subscriptions at club rates provided all the members of the club pay up previous to the first of October. We must have the money due us, and trust all who know themselves in arrears will heed this call.

Correspondence about the Crops.

LAFAYETTE Co., July 4.—“Harvest is on hand, and the wheat crop promises to be abundant; Oats very fine; Corn, thus far, good, but the weather has been too cold and dry to advance it rapidly. Many are of the opinion there will be but half a hemp crop. The knowing ones are already predicting another dry season.”

JACKSON COUNTY, July 1.—Mr. P. J. G Lea informs us that the chinch bug has done great injury to the wheat in the southern part of Jackson county, and now threatens to attack the corn.

JOHNSON COUNTY, July 1.—“Corn in our neighborhood looks very fine indeed.—Wheat generally, has turned out very well; the chintz bug has been very bad in a few miles of us, but has done no damage in our neighborhood.”

Plate for Premiums.

Messrs. Jaccard & Co. advertise to supply silver ware for agricultural premiums. We have seen some of their wares of beautiful design and finish, and fully equal to any eastern work. There is no need of going out of the State for premium ware.

LUMBER.—Mr. J. H. White advertises a fine lot of lumber for sale. All who wish to build a new house or repair the old one, will know where to send their orders.

ROCHESTER NURSERIES.—See the advertisement of Messrs. Elwanger & Barry. This is one of the best Nurseries in the United States, and Mr. Barry is too well known as the editor of the Horticulturist to need any commendation from us.

SORES ON CATTLE AND HORSES.—A very valuable wash to heal up old sores, galls, chaps, &c., on horses and cattle may be prepared as follows: Take two quarts of strong decoction of white oak bark, made by stripping off the bark of the living trees, divesting it of its outer, or rough bark, and boiling several hours in water, then strain out the liquor and add one ounce of aqua ammonia (spirits of hartshorn) and two ounces of alum. Dissolve the alum and wash the affected parts two or three times a day, and if very bad, bind on a cloth wet with the above preparation, renewing it as often as may be necessary to keep it moist. This tretament well not only heal up the sore speedily, but will harden the flesh and skin so as to remove all tenderness from the place.

We find in an Albany paper, the following notice of an establishment, from which come the machines which at the present time are pretty well known to our readers, having been sold by us for four or five years past. During that time several hundred of them have been distributed through the West, from Iowa to Texas and California, attaining and retaining a popularity seldom equalled. During our visit to the East last summer we spent some time in going over this establishment, and it was our intention at that time to have published a particular account of it, but some how or other it was omitted:

NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL WORKS.—

We have had it in contemplation for some time to make a notice of these Works, which have taken a prominent position among the manufacturing establishments in our city, commensurate with their importance. In passing the buildings, our attention has frequently been attracted by the industry going on in them, and by the novel operations of the machinery; while our admiration has been excited, on closer inspection, at the regularity, rapidity, and perfection with which everything was done.

We become interested in this establishment, not only because it was located in our city, and was in the full fruition of success and prosperity, but because it was a manufactory of those implements which have, of late years, come to the rescue of every man, woman and child, in furnishing such valuable assistance in the labor of gleaning those products of the soil upon which there is so much dependence; and knowing that under existing circumstances, if primitive means alone were depended upon for the gathering of these products, there would be far greater suffering among the poor than there is. We look upon the invention and manufacture of these implements as a progression of much importance to our Agriculturists. In former years, with less population, and scarcely any foreign demand for the products of our soil, it would do well enough to put under cultivation one-half or one-third of a farm, and work it throughout by hand. But in these days, with a vastly increased and constantly augmenting population, together with a very large foreign demand, an entirely different state of things exists. It becomes necessary or important to put every available spot of ground under cultivation, and to bring into requisition all the machinery possible to carry on the work.

Having made a visit to the establishment

whose name stands at the head of this article, and having gleaned some particulars regarding it, we propose to lay the same before our readers that they may get some idea of its importance. And in the commencement, we would say that the Patent Office at Washington has recently extended, for seven years from July 8, 1755, the patent on an important piece of machinery, known as the Endless Chain Horse Powers, originally granted to A. & W. C. Wheeler, and now held by Wheeler, Melick & Co., proprietors of this establishment. This patent has become valuable. The Powers, judging from the number made and sold, must be the most popular one in use.

Messrs. W., M. & Co., were pioneers in establishing this branch of manufactures in our city. They came here in 1849 from Chatham, N. Y., deeming it the best location for an established and increasing business they could find. They make their patent Horse Powers and Threshing Machines the leading articles of manufacture. Their long continuance in the business and large experience since its establishment, have enabled them to systemize the operations in every department of their Works. The Works are well arranged, and there is every convenience supplied for saving labor, and doing the work in a thorough manner.

The establishment occupies the entire block, between Hamilton Pruyn and Liberty sts. and Delavan alley. The main building is 55 by 120 feet, three stories high, with wings, and an "L" for the Office, Foundry, Blacksmith shop, &c.

On the first floor of the main building is the engine, saws for cutting up lumber, machines for dressing and shaping the heaviest pieces used, and also the iron shop. On the second floor are machines for sawing, planing, morticing, tenoning, beading, grooving, and whittling of every kind, and benches for "putting up" work and finishing it for the painter. On the third floor are the painting and packing rooms. Every piece of each machine is fashioned by machinery.

Over 60 machines are driven by an engine of 40 horse power. An admirable feature is exhibited in the fact that the workmen who put together the machines, find in its allotted place every piece required, by which means the work is greatly expedited. The proprietors give employment throughout the year to about 60 men. During last year they paid for labor over \$25,000.

They also used during the same period, 100 tons of pig, and over one hundred tons of wrought iron and steel, and cut up half a million feet of lumber. Their goods find a market in every State and organized Territory in the Union, and throughout the Canada.

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These facts, hastily thrown together will give our readers some idea of this establishment, built upon a comparatively new business, and yet it will be seen, its proportions are colossal.

Messrs. W., M. & Co., are gentlemen of enterprise, yet economical and careful in their business, and very attentive and courteous. They are of that class with whom it is always a pleasure to do business. We commend their establishment to the patronage of all in want of anything in their line. Their advertisement will be found in another column.

For the Valley Farmer.

The Graduation Law.

OSAGE Co., Mo., June 24, 1855.

MR. ABBOTT: *Dear Sir.*—While I write the rain is pattering down upon my cabin roof with a fair prospect of a rainy day; so I concluded to give you a few lines. Our crops look quite promising yet, although we have had considerable wet weather, and it looks quite promising now for another wet spell; harvest just commenced and promises an abundant yield. Oats fine; potatoes and all garden vegetables in profusion; and I never saw a finer prospect for fruits of all kinds.

"From the luscious peach
Down to the nectarine."

But I commenced this letter to make some inquiries of you to ascertain whether you had formed any opinion of what would become of those who have entered land under the thirty year wonder (i. e. the graduation act?). These gents are rambling our country over, hunting up their would-be lands, like minks skulking round the old hen roost, fearing lest by chance they should meet with the old barn yard Shanghai, who doubtless would give him a drubbing if he should not trot off with his booty. Strange as it may appear, he goes into the office and applies for three hundred and twenty acres, not knowing anything about the land he selects, whether it is occupied or not, and swears it is not in the occupancy of any one. He enters it; jumps aboard the steam boat; lands at some adjacent stopping place; looks out his entry, and lo! to his great surprise, he finds it occupied, perhaps by a stalwart youth of twenty-one or upwards, who with his busom wife and two or three

little children, holds, as he thinks, a lawful pre-emption, and he says at once he will not give it up, because the law is on his side, and he will have the entry cancelled. The parties are notified to appear before the Register with their evidence. The trial proceeds, but lo! the occupant finds that his farm is not an agricultural improvement. What, then, kind reader, do you suppose is an agricultural improvement? Why the register tells him his house is an agricultural improvement in the eye of the law. So it seems hereafter that we pre-emptioners will have to house our farms as well as our wife and little children. There are any number of just such cases occurring among us daily, and I have come to the conclusion that if there ever was a time for the agriculturist to strike, now is the time to make hay while the sun shines. Up, and be doing," is our motto. Let us unite hand and heart in trying to put down these land sharks, which we thought the law (i. e. the thirty years' wonder) had done; but has failed for want of proper officers to execute the law. What, Congress pass a law for our benefit, and we stand by and see that law administered unofficially for the want of men possessed of pure principles? That this has been the case we think we can demonstrate clearly to every candid mind. When the offices were first opened, these speculators stood aghast, looking on until they succeeded in getting the offices closed that they might meet with its administrators in conclave, to concoct measures that meet their approbation. And we poor fellows are now told that they do not intend to settle their lands at all, but design sending a man to settle it for them, until they can get a patent for it. Oh, consistency, what a jewel thou art! They have taken oaths for immediate and actual settlement, and if we do not pervert the word of God, all of those who have not complied with the law, have forsworn themselves unto eternal damnation.

Publish the above if you please, while I remain your obedient servant and

SUBSCRIBER.

The Pacific Railroad.

We learn from the Republican that the construction of the first division of the South-western Branch will be commenced early in August, and pushed on vigorously to completion. This division is 90 miles long and extends to the Gasconade.

There is a good prospect, amounting almost to a certainty that the main trunk will be opened to Jefferson City during October, probably by the first of the month. The rails will be laid to Hermann (80 miles from St. Louis), and the road opened for use that far on Monday, the 6th of August.

West of Jefferson City the work to California (the county seat of Moniteau) is progressing satisfactorily, and as rapidly as the money can be collected on the stock subscriptions applicable to that part of the road.

P. S.—The road was opened according to appointment on the 6th, and a large company, composed of railroad men, capitalists, Editors, etc., proceeded from the city, leaving here at half past eight, and arriving at Herman before one, where they were welcomed by discharges of cannon, and escorted to a large hall in town where a bountiful repast was provided, of which the company partook, and after listening to speeches from several gentlemen, they returned to St. Louis well pleased with the pleasures of that day.

We refer our readers to the Time-table published in our advertising department. This is one of the best roads in the United States; being substantially built and well furnished, and what is greatly to its credit is the fact that there has never an accident occurred, which has resulted in serious injury to any passenger on the road.

THE VINTAGE.—The Editor of the Republican, who visited Herman on the celebration of the opening of the Pacific railroad to that point, thus speaks of the prospects of the grape crop: "We understand the season has been unpropitious for a good vintage. In the beginning of the summer it was supposed that 80,000 gal-

lons of wine would be manufactured from the crop; but the late rains have dashed the hopes of cultivators, and a much smaller amount is set down as the yield likely to be realized."

For the Valley Farmer.

CARLYLE, Clinton Co., Ill.

July 23, 1855.

FRIENDS WOODWARD & ABBOTT, Sirs:—I have come to the conclusion that I would drop you a few lines to inform you that we, your subscribers here at Carlyle, have not received one number of your valuable paper since last January, in the time when you promised we should have them, namely, the first of the month.

I took a great deal of trouble on myself to get you a good list here, and if they are not all paid I want you to forward your account to me and I will fork over for all that I have forwarded to you, with the understanding that if you cannot send our papers before the next month after they are printed, you will get your subscribers yourself next time, for I do not like to meet one of the subscribers, for the first salutation is, "what is the reason we do not get the Valley Farmer until the next month after it is due;" then it comes freighted with directions for the farmer for the past month, and then we have to keep them eleven months before we can make any use of any suggestion in regard to farming, which is very annoying to those of your subscribers that are sensitive.

I have now complied with a request of your subscribers here. The July No. is before me, and it says this No. will find most of our readers in the harvest field. I cannot imagine where your paper circulates for the farmers about here, or the most of them have been done two weeks ago, and a great many of them have a portion of their crops eat up and forgotten it almost. We had one of the largest harvests as a general thing, that ever I saw in Illinois for a period of eighteen years. One of my neighbors threshed out his wheat, and he told me he got 35 bushels to the acre. One

very heavy; corn promising; potatoes and other vegetables never better.

Yours respectfully. N.

REMARKS.—We do not blame our good friend for scolding a little, at the same time we assure our friend, and all others who have felt like him, that henceforth all the papers will be mailed previous to the 10th of the month for which it is printed.

New Power Hemp Breaker.

We do not know that we can better express our opinion of this article, which we had the pleasure of examining a few days since, than by copying the following from the Republican:

Yesterday a number of gentlemen of this city were present to witness the operation of S. A. Clemens' new Power Hemp Breaker. As any improvement which lessens the labor required in the preparation of hemp for market is calculated to excite great interest, we are not surprised that the announcement of a steam hemp breaker should be well received. Some gentlemen, we doubt not, went there with preconceived notions against the practicability of this application of steam to machinery for hemp breaking, but certainly the result must have been very satisfactory to them. Previous attempts of this kind have all failed to accomplish the desired end, but in this case a different result seems to be insured.

The Hemp Break of which we are now speaking is in operation at Whitley's foundry, North Main street, and was made in this city. It is the second machine ever constructed; the first having been burned in the fire which destroyed the Missouri Company's factory in April last. The main features of this Break is a very effective breaking and whipping action, combined in one vibrating member of the machine. The hemp stalks are spread in successive layers upon a feed apron at one end of the machine and the layers of fibre are delivered at the other end in marketable condition. Hemp, however tangled, can be passed through the machine, but the labor of feeding the stalks is less, and the results are better, when the material is applied straight and even. Hands of the shortest hemp are not clogged by passing through the Breaker.

The machine is simple and safe. It requires three hands to attend it, two of whom supply the hemp stalks, and the third removes the layers of cleansed fibre. An inferior quality of hemp, five feet in length, is broken at a rate of exceeding one ton of fibre in ten hours.

With good hemp, of the usual longer growth,

the quantity can be increased to one and a half tons in ten hours. Leading hemp manufacturers here, say that hemp is better cleansed by this machine than the average of the article sent to this market, and without additional handling. The machine is portable, and may be driven by a small steam engine, for which the shivers of the broken stalks will furnish the fuel, or a common horse power may be used.

Taking it for granted, after witnessing its operation, that this machine will perform all that is expected of it, any one will see that it is to work a great revolution in the hemp crop. The entire crop has been, up to the present time, prepared for market by hand labor, the average day's work being about 100 lbs. But here is a machine that performs the labor of at least twenty-five men, and to this extent facilitates the preparation of the hemp for market. If this advantage can be realized, it will of course justify the hemp grower in cultivating twice as much ground as he has been in the habit of doing, for the machine supplies him with the ready means of breaking and cleansing it for market. By the adoption of this labor saving improvement, the yearly product of hemp will be limited only by the amount which can be cultivated, gathered and rotted.

For the Valley Farmer.

Chess.

MR. EDITOR.—I see some of your readers send to the Valley Farmer for information in regard to anything on farming, and I wish some friend to inform me, through the columns of your valuable paper, concerning Chess, or Cheat as I call it. I want to know how to get rid of it. I have a piece of meadow taken with it; a year ago last spring the cheat headed out all over the piece of meadow, and when that got ripe the timothy headed out and I cut a good crop of grass from the ground; this spring the cheat has come as thick as it can stand and as high as a man's shoulders, and has all the appearance of timothy except the head, but nearly all the timothy is gone. If any person can tell me the cause of its coming in timothy, and how to get rid of it, the information will be thankfully received, and myself amply compensated for all I have ever paid or may pay for the Valley Farmer, though I expect to take the Farmer as long as I can raise a dollar to pay for it.

OSAGE FARMER.

Mowing Machines.

The Editor of the *Massachusetts Ploughman*, has a clear head, and as practical an acquaintance with actual farming as any man connected with the agricultural press in the Union. In his paper of July 20 he gives us a chapter on the economy of mowing machines, which we commend to the attention of our readers and to the attention of manufacturers of these articles. Without endorsing the conclusions arrived at by our contemporary, we must say there is great room for improvement in all the machines we have yet examined. With us, the advantages of machines are greater than in New England. Manual labor is dearer here than there, animal labor cheaper. Moreover it is much more difficult to obtain good hands during the harvesting and haying months. It seems to be a settled point that in the West we must use machines to cut both our grain and our grass. With these remarks we submit the article to our readers:

We may be accused of being late in the season in giving our opinions on farm implements, that are promised to save half the labor of haying—of patent machines, that will supersede the sythe, and render the task of securing the hay harvest a very light matter.

But we have chosen to wait till a trial of two summers has satisfied us that very material alterations must be made in all the mowing machines which we have seen or heard of, before a farmer can afford to buy or to hire one.

We hoped last year to be able to tell the public that mowing on very fine ground could be done economically by horse power, and we spent much time in the trial of two machines of different construction, which were sent to us for experiment. In one case the agents of the patentee were present at the trial, where a hundred people had assembled, on a request from us, to see its operation. In the other case one of the proprietors of the machine was present—he was from Philadelphia—expressing the fullest confidence that the machine would work to our advantage.

We reserved an acre of good grass for him, and when he came we let him have an excellent yoke of oxen to drag his machine—but it was “no go,” the machine could not clear the ground though the bottom was smooth, and there was not more than one and a half tons per acre.

The draft seemed quite heavy, and we added the power of a good horse to drag the implement along—but with this team, that would not mind carrying two tons of gravel up any of our hills that rise five degrees, we could hardly drag a mass on the ground of 600 or 800 pounds weight, (some weigh 850.)

After a trial in the heavy grass we drew the machine on to a lot that yielded but half a ton to the acre. Here the team drew the mass more easily. But here, four men could perform more in the same time than the oxen, the horse, the driver, and the machine, which we have reckoned as one hand.

Let us not be deceived by appearances. The patentees of these machines talk of mowing one acre per hour, or eight acres per day—for teams are not expected to work at dragging, more than eight hours.

Well, will not good men with scythes mow two acres each? We have men that do it—and on a bet, they are known to do twice as much—that is, a man can mow four acres in a day, on a bet, on a trial of skill, in case you let him have a bottom as smooth as the machines require, and one ton of grass to the acre.

And remember, these machines are doing their utmost to show spectators what they can possibly accomplish—not what they would ordinarily perform.

Two of our men then, on a trial, will cut as much grass in a day as a machine that must be dragged by a strong team—which will go but eight hours. And how much is saved by the operation? If you hire a pair of horses they will cost you as much as two men. But you own a pair, you say, and you may as well work them or oxen as to let them lie idle. How much would you charge a day to hire them to drag a carriage instead of a machine?

In regard to ox labor, we may say it costs nothing when we own the cattle. But most of our farmers, who keep oxen,

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are quite unwilling to hire them. They work them but little, and calculate to make beef of them, keeping them on the gaining hand from six to eight years of age. Ox labor costs something, as well as horse labor and man's labor.

Now admit that a skilful man with a pair of horses of his own can, on a stretch, mow eight acres in a day. He must at least count his own labor and the wear of the machine, and interest on its cost, and expense of storing it. All these will pay for two good men, who can possibly mow eight acres in a day.

But most of the machines require continual repairs, and you are not very safe in a mowing field without a blacksmith and a carpenter to attend you. Hired men, in particular, are not expected to be expert in these matters, and the cost of repairs must be taken into the account.

We have come to the conclusion that no farmer can afford to buy a mowing machine, till he finds one constructed on principles different from any that have been shown here. We are sorry for this failure in the efforts of those who have expended much time and money in getting up their implements, but we feel bound to make known our opinions, that our readers need not complain of being led into costly outlays through our silence.

We are aware that numerous writers on improvements in farming differ from us on this subject. But who are the writers? Are they practical men, who know the difference between the cost of carrying on a farm by hand labor and by machinery? We think not. The time may come when machines may do the mowing here, as they do the reaping on the prairie lands, but that time has not yet come.

Lighter implements, and cheaper are required, before we can surrender the sythe and snath that weigh less than ten pounds, and cost less than two dollars.

For the Valley Farmer.

We have been blessed in Bond county this year with an abundant season; wheat has far exceeded any year since I have resided in the State, which is seven. Oats are now coming in and are very good, and

corn is looking very fine, with a fine gentle shower while I am writing. I noticed in the May number of the *Farmer*, a communication from J. G. M., on Fall Plowing, which in my experience is very erroneous.

First, of bare ground being exposed to freezing and thawing in winter: it is what a stiff clay soil needs, only plow deep and early, with stubble, weeds or grass before the weed seeds have become ripened, and all his objections will be overcome. Because if vegetation enough or manure is turned under, the ground will not "run together like so much soft soap," nor will the seeds be in the way in spring to "give life and vigor to every description of unwanted and unneeded vegetable;" for the earlier we can plow the earlier we can plant, and by early fall plowing we can have our ground dry and planted and ready for plowing before our spring plowing neighbor can have his ground dry enough for breaking up, which is of the greatest importance in a wet spring; besides, what was turned under in fall has made the ground lighter and warmer, which will push forth the coming crop with vigor and give time to lay it by before the business of harvest comes on, and the harvest and meadow can be attended to without coming in contact with the corn at all, and fallowing should be done the latter part of June or before harvest; and as soon as the wheat, oats, rye or barley can be removed from the field commence fall plowing. As for insects, it is certain from the experience of every farmer I have conversed with for forty years that fall plowing is a great help, as to corn "growing faster and ranker, being easier tilled, ear better and stand the drouth better," is an entire mistake. We have tried it,—did not "skim off the surface an inch or so deep and tumble about the old stubble and weeds;" but we break deep and early, turn all under and make the ground light and warm. I do not belong to the upper ten class but I believe in taking time by the forelock; take every advantage of nature and let her do her best.

share by giving her a fair chance. Early, clean, level, deep culture, with everything that can be converted into manure to feed the ground, whether dry stubble or green weeds deeply and well turned under will do it.

T. J. A.

SALE OF MULES.—Our enterprising countryman, M. Castleman, Esq., sold last week forty mules, out of a lot of one hundred, for the sum of one hundred and seventy-five dollars each. The mules were an average of the lot only, and were sold to a Southern planter, who came to Kentucky for the sole purpose of purchasing mules for his farming purposes. This does not look as if the mule market was very much depressed.—*Lexington (Ky.) Observer.*

We may add that Mr. Castleman is a subscriber to and reader of the Valley Farmer, and therefore might be expected to get a good price for his mules.

KANSAS.—The Kansas Register is in receipt of the most gratifying accounts from all parts of the Territory in relation to the crops. It is the opinion of many persons who have been out examining the country, that corn enough will be raised for the legitimate consumption of the present population and stock of the Territory; and some even go farther and say that there will be breadstuffs to supply the demand of the large increase of population which is anticipated on all hands, the coming fall and winter. With the large surplus in Missouri, and the present crop in Kansas, there can be no trouble to supply all the demands incident to a very large increase of population, and that too at low prices.

NOVEL RACE.—A singular race came off on the fourth at Galesburg, Ill., being no less than a mile heat between a horse and a locomotive with a tender and two passenger cars attached. Both started at the tap of a drum and ran a mile on a wager of \$500 a side. Of course, a locomotive under full speed, would outstrip the fleetest horse; but it was questionable whether starting from a dead rest with a train, it

could gain sufficient motion to overtake a fleet animal within the first mile. On the trial the horse kept the lead for three-fourths of a mile, when the locomotive gave a snort, scared the horse, and came in ahead.

THE HORTICULTURIST.—We neglected to notice in our last that the place of publication of this excellent work had been changed from Rochester to Philadelphia. Mr. R. P. Smith has become its publisher, and Mr. J. J. Smith its editor. Under Mr. Barry's direction the Horticulturist has fully sustained the high reputation it obtained while under the management of the lamented Downing, and we trust that under its new editor it will still hold the same high position. The two numbers which have been issued since the change took place, are excellent.

EDITORS WANTED.—Mr. J. S. Wright, proprietor of the Prairie Farmer, announces that he wishes to engage two editors for that publication, which is to be published weekly, after this year. Mr. Wright retires, and there is now a vacancy for an agricultural and a commercial editor. We shall part with Mr. Wright with regret, and hope he will reappear in connection with some other publication, for we cannot afford to lose his services in the good cause of agricultural improvement.

THE GENESSEE FARMER.—Mr. Jas. Vick, Jr., late editor of the Horticulturist, and for many years editor of the Genessee Farmer, has become sole editor and proprietor of it, and it will no doubt henceforth sustain its old deservedly high reputation as one of the best agricultural papers in the country.

THE STATE FAIRS.—We have published in this number of our paper the premium lists of the Missouri and Illinois State Fairs. Arrangements have been made for the transportation of passengers over the Illinois roads at reduced rates. Cannot a similar arrangement be made in this State, over the Pacific road to Herman and by packet to Boonville?

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Trials of Mowing Machines.

We have seen in the papers lately several reports of trials of mowing machines, which may interest our readers. One of these trials took place in Westchester county, N. Y., upon which, as we learn from the Rural New Yorker, the Committee reported that "they were very greatly pleased with the performance of every machine exhibited, and can confidently say that they believe any one of them would give satisfaction to the farmers of the country, and when all are so excellent it becomes a matter of considerable difficulty and embarrassment to the Committee to decide which one of them embodies the greatest number of desirable qualities." After further remarking that all the machines exhibited possess peculiar excellencies, they express the opinion that in respect to operation the machines of KETCHUM, HALLENBECK, MANNY and ALLEN, are of equal excellence, and that there is no material difference as to the smoothness and lowness of their cut. The machines of KETCHUM, MANNY, HALLENBECK and RUSSELL, were considered least likely to clog, on account of the finger caps not reaching back to the finger-board. The Judges pronounce Ketchum's and Allen's machines the most durable, and Hallenbeck's the most simple; FORBUSH's machine was not included in the report, it not being in proper order at the time of the trial.

On the 20th June a trial was had at Louisville, Ky., which is thus reported by the *Louisville Journal*:

The place chosen was in the meadow of F. McHarry, near Shippingport. There were four machines on the ground, viz:—Danford's Iron Shear-Blade, Haines' Illinois, and Ketchum's mowers, and Manny's combined mower and reaper. Two of these machines are entirely new to this section of the country.

As the improvement and success of mowing machines are matters of interest to our farming friends, we will describe some of the features of these new machines.

Danford's appeared to combine all the requisites of a good machine, except the usual guards for the protection of the mowing blades. It is compact and well made, most of iron. It runs upon one main wheel and a small wooden roller or castor. The cutting is performed by a double set of blades, operating upon the principle of shears which makes it necessary to dispense with the guards, which render the blades liable derangement and breakage from every to grub, stump, or stone with which they come in contact, and, as each blade is made of a solid plate of steel, when one or more sections of teeth are broken, entire new blades must be substituted.

Haines' Illinois Mower combines several new and valuable features. The frame is supported on two large wheels instead of one, and is much like a horse cart; both wheels act as drivers, to the blade, and at the same time equalize and lighten the draft on the horse. It is so adjusted that it cuts equally well on a slow as on a fast gait. The resistance, which is common to machines is greatly relieved in this by having the cutting-bar and blade hung to the frame instead of being firmly bolted to it, as in other mowers, so that it is relieved of the weight of a portion of the machine, and will accommodate itself to any unevenness in the ground.

Danford's machine first entered the grass drawn by two mules, cutting well with comparative ease. At this period a heavy shower came up, which prostrated the grass considerably. After the rain the team was put to Haines' machine, and, although the grass was extremely wet and heavy, it made a round, cutting entirely free without choking.

Ketchum's machine was then tried, but with the wet, lodged grass, it would not cut a rod without choking, when it was thought advisable to defer further trial until Thursday the 22d, when the three machines were again separately tried. The grass being dry, Ketchum's machine cut a clean, smooth swath, but appeared, from the labored efforts of the team, to require a third

more power to run it than either of the other mowers.

Haines' machine, with the same team, cut a clear swath with comparative ease. Danford's cut well where the grass was erect, or where it was inclined towards the machine, but running in any other direction through the lodged grass, it cut roughly, leaving a considerable portion uncut.

We believe it was generally admitted that Haines' machine was the best, and a decided improvement upon the old mower.

For the Valley Farmer.

Well Enough.

"Let well enough alone," is a right good motto in certain cases. Very often a good thing is spoiled by fussing and changing and trying to make it better. But it won't do to go by this rule in all cases. Some things, and a great many things are not "well enough" yet, and the farmer who sits down contented with things as they are, or lags along behind his neighbors, will always be second or third rate. The enterprising farmer who is always on the lookout for "something better," where something better is needed, and is ready to risk a little in adopting what promises to be a real improvement, will always stand number one.

It is a happy thing for Missouri that there are so many of these number one farmers scattered through her different counties; men who read the papers—take the Valley Farmer, for instance—and so find out what other farmers are doing, what improved stock they are raising, what better seed they are sowing, what better tools they are using, what better methods of cultivation they are adopting, and then, after satisfying themselves which of these improvements are most needed, and which appear to be most genuine, they try them, and if they prove good, adopt them. Then some of their slow moving, more cautious neighbors come on after them and imitate their example, and after awhile even the stand-still, well enough class, are compelled to follow but and close up the rear, but always far

away behind in the onward march of improvement.

Thus the progressive farmer whose motto is "Excelsior"—"onward and Upward," "Higher, and still higher"—"pretty well now, but better next time"—while he keeps ahead and ever maintains the front rank, sets an example to his neighbors which they sooner or later must follow—while he is securing prosperity for himself, he is promoting the welfare and progress of the whole State. Happy, I say, is it for Missouri that she has a good number of such public benefactors scattered through the State. They are like "a little leaven that leaveneth the whole lump." They are doing more for the honor and progress of the State, than a whole army of old fogies would do.

I have had the pleasure, during the last few months of receiving letters from quite a number of farmers of this stamp, living in various parts of the State.

Having brought to their notice a new and valuable implement for planting corn, I wished to know how it worked in their hands. Having tried this machine myself on several farms, and found that the ground as ordinarily prepared for dropping and covering by hand, hoe and plow, is not always in the best condition for using the Planter, I wanted to get the opinion of the farmers as to the best way of preparing the field for it. So, in a circular letter sent to those whose names were known to me I asked the following questions: "How do you think best to prepare the soil for the planter, when not freshly plowed, but hardened by lying exposed to the rain and sun? Do you prefer in such a case, to lay off with a plow one way and plant in the ridge turned up? or to use a marker with a cultivator tooth, as recommended in the Valley Farmer for February?" In that article, in the February Farmer I had described a new way of laying off the field for planting, which many of them have tried under various circumstances and with various success. Their replies to my circular on this point contain so much valuable infor-

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mation, and so many good hints for farmers that I propose to communicate the substance of them to readers of the "Valley Farmer" in a future number. But first I wish to obtain more particular information from a larger number of farmers on several points.

From the letters already received and above alluded to, I learn that this is a very important point in farming. Not only do some of our farmers lay off their ground in one-half and even one-quarter the time that others do, and make easier work of it, but they actually do it better, so that the hills are less exposed to "wash up"—the seed less liable to rot in a wet time, and the young corn has so much more depth of loosened and pulverised soil under it for its roots to work in, that it gets a better start from the first—acquires an early vigorous growth, which gives it an advantage through the whole season, and secures a better crop in the harvest. Six months ago I thought it was in dropping and covering that the farmer most needed some way of saving time and labor, and that the new Corn Planter I introduced into this State was the very thing needed for this purpose. And so it was. The experience of the present season has not disappointed me; but it has brought to view another fact: that there is almost or quite as much time and labor to be saved and improvement to be made in preparing the ground as in putting in the seed. I refer not now to the all important matter of deep plowing, upon which too much can never be said, especially as the present fine season may induce some farmers to forget it; I speak now of the method of laying off the ground before planting. The common practice is to lay off with a plow, both ways, taking one row at a time, and then to drop the seed in the furrow, covering afterwards with a plow or hoe. Too often, as I myself have seen and others have informed me, the original plowing is not very deep, and the shovel plow used in laying off, removes so much of the loosened soil, that the seed deposited at the bottom of the furrow, lies not far

from the unplowed earth below, if not quite down upon it, a situation not particularly favorable to the growth of the corn, and in some seasons liable to be attended with very serious evils. Different methods may prevail in different parts of this and the neighboring States. Those readers of the Farmer who esteem this subject of sufficient importance to call for an interchange of views among agriculturists with respect to it, and will write to me as soon as convenient communicating the result of their own experience and observation, will much oblige me, and on my part I will endeavor to the best of my ability to bring together and present to the readers of the Valley Farmer the facts thus communicated to me, so as to make them available to all who desire to make progress in the noble art of agriculture.

I would particularly request information on the following points:

1. How deep do the farmers commonly plow in your section?
2. What is their usual method of "laying off" or "cross marking" for corn planting?
3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this method?
4. How have any of your farmers sought to avoid these disadvantages and with what success?
5. What do you consider to be the best method of 'laying off,' or 'cross marking'.
6. How many acres is considered a fair days work for one man and horse laying off one way with a plow?

Any other information with regard to different methods of preparing the soil and putting in the seed, will be gratefully acknowledged and faithfully used in the Farmer.

Address letters to E. Leigh, St. Louis, Mo.

One characteristic of the wheat crop in Central and Southern Illinois this year, is said to be, that the stalks are small, numerous, well headed and the berry plump, which will make the yield larger than would be estimated by a casual observer.

Mo. State Agricultural Society.**OFFICERS FOR 1855.**

President—M. M. Marmaduke, Arrow Rock, Saline County.

Vice Presidents—Wm. O. Maupin, Marshall, Saline Co.; Newton G. Elliot, Fayette, Howard Co.; Wm. T. Christy, St. Louis; John K. Ragland, Boonville, Cooper Co.; Wm. K. Trigg, Lexington, Lafayette Co.; John H. McNeill, Gallatin, Davies Co.; Thos. C. Anderson, Williamsburgh, Callaway Co.

Corresponding Sec'y—James L. Minor, Jefferson City, Cole Co.

Treasurer—Wm. H. Trigg, Boonville, Cooper Co.

Rec. Sec'y—J. L. Stephens, Boonville, Cooper Co.

The third Annual Address will be delivered by Hon. Wm. C. Rives, of Va.

Chief Marshal—Jefferson F. Jones, Esq., Fulton, Callaway Co.

First Assistant Marshal—Bennett C. Clark, Belle Air, Cooper Co.

All the other Marshals will be appointed by the Chief and First Assistant Marshals.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Entries of articles or animals for any day of the Fair, will be made by the Recording Secretary, September 28th and 29th, and on the same days the Committee of Arrangements will give their attention to receiving articles for exhibition.

Persons competing for premiums, are urgently requested to have all their entries for the following day, made upon the books of the Recording Secretary, either at the Fair Grounds on the evening after the exhibition is over; or at the office of the Recording Secretary, (Law Office of Jo. L. Stephens,) where the books will be kept open until ten o'clock at night. Entries can also be made on the morning of each day previous to the exhibition; but should too many exhibitors defer offering them till that time—as all have to be made upon the same book—the Secretary may be unable to receive them all against ten o'clock A. M., after that hour, positively, no entry can be made.

Neither the Secretary nor any other officer of the Society will disclose to competitors what entries are made in competition with them, before the exhibition.

Music by the Brass Band will commence each morning at nine o'clock, and continue under the control of the Chief Marshal. The Fair will open precisely at ten o'clock.

Awarding Committees—Persons composing the several awarding committees are requested to report themselves at the business office of the Board, upon the Fair Grounds, at nine o'clock in the morning of the day they are desired to serve. At half past nine their names will be called, and all vacancies supplied, and at ten o'clock they will enter upon their duties. Each committee is requested to make its report to the Recording Secretary, at the business office, as early as practicable.

No person whatever will be allowed to interfere with the Awarding Committees during their adjudications.

Persons competing for a premium for the largest yield per acre, or half acre, are to have the ground measured by a competent surveyor, and must produce his certificate as to quantity in cultivation.

Persons competing for premiums in corn, to have the ground measured by a surveyor with chain and compass, who must make affidavit to the correctness of his survey; and two or more persons in no wise related to or interested with the exhibitor, to make affidavit to the gathering and measuring of the corn from an average acre. The corn to be left standing until the first day of November, to be measured in a sealed half bushel, and the number of bushels stated to the treasurer, and the premium to be awarded to him, who, from the proof, shall have produced the largest quantity on the ten acres, or five acres, or one acre, as the case may be.

In ascertaining the quantity of wheats, oats, barley, hemp and meadow, an average acre shall be set apart and served as above, and the yield of this acre cut and measured or weighed, to itself, a certificate thereof to be signed by three disinterested and respectable persons.

Price of Admission—Members, their wives, and children under twenty-one years of age, free; footmen, ten cents; horsemen, twenty-five cents; horse and buggy, fifty cents; carriage, seventy-five cents. Public hacks will be permitted to pass the gates for ten cents for each person in them. Tickets to be had at the ticket office near the admission gate. Two horse hacks will be required for the privilege of entering the gates two dollars a day. Four horse hacks or stages, three dollars per day.

No persons other than the Marshals, Secretaries, Awarding Committees, and Grooms in charge of the stock, shall be allowed to go into the ring, when the stock and other articles are being exhibited, without the special order of the Directory.

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Persons desirous of becoming members for the year 1855, are requested to forward their names at once, with membership fee—five dollars—to William H. Trigg, Treasurer. Upon receipt of same, a certificate of membership will be returned.

Sale Days—Auction sales for the accommodation of members of the Society, will be made, if the business permit, on every evening after the exhibition; and on Friday, the 5th day of October, the Fair Grounds will be open for all who may wish to sell or purchase any property, brought to the Fair for exhibition.

Sweep Stake Premiums.—The sweep stake premiums offered by this Society, in all cases, are open for stock of all ages, and from any country. Taking a premium at a prior Fair of this Society, will be no obstacle to the competition for sweep stake premiums. An additional fee of two dollars will be required for each entry for these premiums. The awarding committee will be appointed on the Grounds.

At the close of each day's exhibition, the President of the Society will make public proclamation of the premiums awarded, and deliver them to owners.

All premiums will be paid in silver plate of the best quality.

The press throughout the State are respectfully invited to notice the time of holding the State Fair, and give such additional notice as will call the attention of their readers to the subject.

M. M. MARMADUKE, President.

JO. L. STEPHENS, Recording Secretary.

FIRST DAY.

AGRICULTURE.

ORCHARD.

Best Specimen.

Apples, display of good varieties,	\$5 00
Pears, display of good varieties,	2 50
Peaches, display of good varieties,	2 50
Plums, display of good varieties,	2 50
Quinces, dozen,	1 00
Grapes, display of hardy varieties,	5 00
Do display of varieties under glass,	2 00
Do best bunch on single stem,	1 00
Do native, for table use, specimen,	1 00
Wine, Missouri made—six bottles,	10 00
Do Domestic, made by lady, specimen,	2 50

Awarding Committee—E. B. Cordell, Jefferson City; Alexander Kayser, St.

Louis; A. W. Simpson, Boonville; C. D. Eitzen, Herman; W. W. Hudson, Columbia.

GARDEN.

Cabbage, six heads,	\$2 50
Potatoes, Irish, largest yield of half an acre,	5 00
Potatoes, sweet, or yams, best display of good varieties not less than one bushel,	5 00
Turnips, twelve for table,	2 50
Beets, twelve for table,	2 50
Parsnips, twelve for table,	2 50
Onions, one peck,	2 50
Celery, dozen bunches,	2 00
Salsafa, dozen,	2 50
Carrots, dozen,	2 50
Caulliflower, dozen,	1 00
Egg Plant, dozen,	1 00
Rheubarb, dozen,	1 00
Tomato, dozen,	1 00

Awarding Committee—R. D. Perry, Boonville; D. C. Arnes, Portland; M. P. Leiniz, Rocheport; Alfred Sandford, Jefferson City; William Musgrove, Lexington.

DAIRY.

Butter, at least 20 pounds, made before the 1st of August, accompanied with a full statement as to how made, packed, &c.,	\$10 00
Butter, five pounds,	5 00

[The premium butter will be donated to the Society and sold at auction.

Cheese, at least five pounds,	\$5 00
Honey, at least five pounds,	2 50
Pickles,	5 00
Preserves,	5 00
Loaf Light Wheat Bread,	1 00
Loaf Light Corn Bread,	1 00
Ham Cooked,	5 00
Ham uncooked, with full statement as to the manner cured,	5 00
Candles, tallow and wax five pounds,	2 00
do tallow, five pounds,	2 00
do stearine, five pounds,	2 00
Lard, firkin, at least 20 pounds,	5 00

Awarding Committee—L. Crigler, Fayette; J. S. Rollins, Columbia; Joshua Gentry, Hannibal; Wm. Shields, Lexington.

ton; H. L. Y. Pope, Boonville.

FLOWERS, PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS.

Flowers, display of varieties in crocks,	\$5 00
Flowers, handsomest bouquet,	2 50
Cut Flowers, designs for,	2 50
Do do largest and handsomest display of,	2 50
Dahlias; display of,	2 50
Pencil Sketch by a lady,	5 00
Painting by a lady,	5 00
Specimen Book or Pamphlet Printing	5 00

Awarding Committee—W. F. Switzler, Columbia; A. Young, Glasgow; J. S. McCracken, Jefferson City; G. W. Cooke, Boonville; J. P. Vaughn, Glasgow.

[Fruits, garden vegetables, flowers; (except those exhibited in crocks, &c.) and articles named under the head of Dairy, (except the butter that fails to take the premium to be regarded as donations to the Society, and as such to be sold at auction.)]

FLOUR AND MEAL.

Flour, wheat, barrel of,	\$15 00
Meal, barrel of,	5 00

[The premium barrels Flour and Meal will be donated to the Society and sold at auction.]

Flour, buckwheat, 25 pounds,	\$2 50
Do rye,	2 50

Awarding Committee—Mr. Staley, Rocheport; Adam Clark, Boonville; Wm. B. Garrett, Portland; W. P. Reggins, Jefferson City; W. B. Watts, Keetsville.

HEDGES AND ENCLOSURES—OSAGE ORANGE.

The best quarter of a mile of Osage Orange, one year old,	\$5 00
The best quarter of a mile of Osage Orange, two years old,	7 50
The best quarter of a mile of Osage Orange, three years old,	10 00
The best model of a moveable or portable fence, such as will effectually resist stock,	10 00

[The evidence that shall be satisfactory in relation to the different hedges above referred to, shall be the certificate of three disinterested persons of reputation and character, describing the condition of the hedges each year on the 15th day of Sep-

tember, stating the height, thickness and ability of the hedge to resist stock at that time, so far as could be reasonably be expected for the age of said hedge.]

Awarding Committee—J. L. Hardeman, Arrow Rock; John Jones, Georgetown; Jas. Caloway, Lexington; Jno. Sigerson, St. Louis; D. W. Waldo, Independence.

HATS, BOOTS, SHOES, AND LEATHER.

Fur Hat,	\$5 00
Silk Hat,	3 00
Wool Hat,	1 00
Straw Hat,	1 00
Boots, pair gentleman's	5 00
Boots, pair misses'	3 00
Shoes, Ladies'	3 00
Do made by a lady,	3 00
Do coarse negro,	2 00
Side of Sole Leather,	3 00
Do upper do	3 00
Do harness do	3 00
Buck Skins, dressed, half a dozen,	2 50
Do skirting, dressed,	\$3 00
Do bridle do	3 00
Half dozen calf skins,	3 00
Do do hog do	3 00

Awarding Committee—J. S. Watson, St. Louis; John Harris, Rocheport; G. P. Bass, Fayette; Mr. Chadwick, Lexington; Isaac Hockiday, Independence.

SILVER, OTHER WARE AND GUNS.

Silver Ware, display of,	\$10 00
Copper do do do	3 00
Tin do do do	3 00
Stone Pottery,	2 50
Marble or stone cutting,	5 00
Mantel, Missouri marble,	5 00
Shot Gun,	5 00
Rifle,	5 00

Awarding Committee—G. G. Schoolfield, Columbia; Abner Tyre, Independence; H. W. Cring, Fayette; Geo. Stank, Lexington; Edward Mead, St. Louis.

IRON CASTINGS.

Hollow Ware, display or variety of, of,	\$5 00
Solid do do do	5 00
Fancy do do do	5 00
Dook stove,	10 00
Parlor do	5 00

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CABINET A

Do Grate,	5 00	Wardrobe,	5 00
Ornamental fence, specimen,	5 00	Beadstead,	5 00
<i>Awarding Committee—Mr. Kingsland.</i>		Lounge,	5 00
St. Louis; Jas. Harrison, Iron Mountain;		Chairs, half dozen mahogany or	
C. H. Brewster, Boonville; W. L. Vaughn,		walnut,	5 00
Oseola; Robert Aull, Lexington.		Do do do spilt bottom,	5 00
SECOND DAY.		Dining Table,	5 00
Third Annual Address by Hon. W. C.		Centre Table,	5 00
Rives, of Virginia, upon the Fair Grounds,		Bureau, dressing,	5 00
at 11 o'clock.		Venetian Blinds,	5 00
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND USEFUL		Door, pattern, finish and material,	5 00
MACHINES.		Mantel piece of wood,	10 00
Plow, two horse, for sod,	\$5 00	Chair, sewing,	3 00
Plow, two horse, for stubble,	5 00	Do Rocking,	5 00
Plow, one horse,	3 00	<i>Awarding Committee—H. E. W. Mc-</i>	
Plow, subsoil,	5 00	Dearmon, Boonville; T. E. Powers, Co-	
Plow, prairie,	10 00	lumbia; C. B. Flint, St. Louis; Mr. Scar-	
Harrow, large plow and material,	5 00	rirt, St. Louis; Augustus Walter, Arrow	
Roller, plan and material,	3 00	Rock.	
Wagon, large or small,	10 00	ARTICLES OF WOOL, COTTON AND SILK	
Cart, horse,	5 00	EMBROIDERY, &c.	
Cutting box, plan and material,	5 00	<i>Premiums to be Awarded by a Committee</i>	
Hemp brake, hand,	2 50	<i>of Ladies.</i>	
Do do power,	10 00	Jeans, fine, not less than ten yards	
Machine for cutting hemp,	10 00	homemade,	\$5 00
Reaper,	10 00	Do do do factory,	5 00
Mower,	10 00	Do negro do do homemade,	3 00
Seed Sower,	2 50	Cloth fulled, do do factory,	5 00
Drill,	2 50	Linsey colored, do do do	3 00
Horse hay rake,	5 00	Do plaid homemade, not less	
Portable plantation mill,	5 00	than ten yards,	3 00
Cradle, mowing,	2 00	Do plaid factory made, not less	
Hemp hooks, half dozen,	2 00	than ten yards,	3 00
Gate, plantation, model of frame		Plannel, ten yards white,	3 00
and fixtures,	3 00	Do ten yards colored,	3 00
Wind-gear, for wagon,	3 00	Hearth rug,	3 00
Horse power, specimen,	10 00	Hose, pair woolen,	2 00
Pump, plan and material,	5 00	Pair half hose, made by a girl under	
Threshing Machine,	10 00	twelve years old,	2 00
Corn sheller,	5 00	Blankets, pair homemade,	5 00
Corn crusher,	5 00	Blankets, pair factory made,	5 00
Wheat Pan,	5 00	Bed spread, spread or coverlet,	5 00
Brooms, half dozen corn, raised		Carpeting, ten yards woolen yarn,	10 00
and made by exhibitor,	2 00	Carpeting, ten yards rag,	5 00
<i>Awarding Committee—J. W. Martin,</i>		Embroidery, long stitch silk,	3 00
Patton; W. N. Jackson, Fayette; Joseph		Embroidery, short stitch silk,	3 00
Walter, Lexington; Minor Williams,		Embroidery, worsted,	3 00
Monteville; Wm. Cochran, Rocheport.		Needle work in linen or cotton	
CABINET AND CARPENTERS' WORK.		thread,	3 00
	\$10 00	Worsted tufted work,	3 00
		Sewing thread at least one pound,	2 00

Linen, ten yards,	3 00	Coil halter rope not less than nine	
Hemp linen, ten yards,	3 00	stran,	5 00
Flax linen, ten yards,	3 00	Cordage and twine, display of,	5 00
Tow linen, ten yards,	3 00	Hemp, largest yield per acre of	
Ornamental leather work,	3 00	Hemp, specimen 25 pounds dew	
Hose, pair cotton, homemade,	2 00	rot from brake,	20 00
Coat, jeans, cut made and prepared		Hemp, specimen 25 pounds water	
by a lady,	5 00	rot, from brake,	20 00
Shirt, linen, best made,	2 00	Hemp, specimen 25 pounds dew	
Shirt by girl under twelve years		rot, hackled,	20 00
of age,	2 00	five acres,	20 00
Shirt by girl under ten years of		Hemp, specimen 25 pounds water	
age,	2 00	rot, hackled,	20 00
Full suit of clothes by a tailor,	10 00	Awarding Committee—J. Shelby, Ber-	
Quilt, silk,	10 00	lin; M. R. Tarlton, Jefferson City; Pres-	
Quilt, worsted,	10 00	ident of the Platt County Agricultural So-	
Quilt, cotton,	10 00	ciety; P. M. Booker, Miami; Mr. Brook-	
Shawl, woolen,	5 00	ing Independence.	
Bonnet, fancy,	5 00		
Dress for a child under six months		TOBACCO.	
old, homeade,	2 50	Tobacco, specimen, 25 lbs. manu-	
Dress for a child under six months		facturing leaf,	20
old,	2 50	Tobacco, specimen, 25 lbs, shipp-	
Dress for girl under twelve years		ing leaf,	20
old,	2 50	Tobacco, box, at least 25 lbs. man-	
Sewing Machine, foreign or Do-		ufactured,	10
mestic,	10 00	Box cigars,	5
Awarding Committee—Mrs. R. D. Pe-		Awarding Committee—D. C. Garth,	
rry, Boonville; Mrs. Geo. A. Nicholson,		Huntsville; Christopher Talbot, Loure	
Fulton; Mrs. C. A. Hickman, Columbia;		Island; David Spahr, Boonville; Peter	
Mrs. E. G. Thornton, Calhoun; Mrs. W.		Carr, Prairieville; Ric'd S. Hyde, Keet-	
K. Trigg, Lexington; Mrs. G. Thomas Dob-		ville; A. W. Jeffries, Union; F. E. Wil-	
bins, Carrollton; Mrs. G. H. Oldham,		liams, Fayette.	
Fayette.		AGRICULTURE.	
CARRIAGES, BUGGIES, &c.		PRODUCE OF THE FIELD.	
Carriage, six seats,	\$10 00	Corn, largest yield per acre of ten	
Rockaway, four seats,	10 00	acres,	20
Buggy, top,	10 00	Do largest yield per acre of five	
Buggy, without top,	8 00	five acres,	15
Carriage, foreign,	10 00	Do largest yield per acre of one	
Buggy, foreign,	8 00	acre,	10
Harness, sett carriage,	10 00	Wheat, largest yield per acre of	
Harness, sett buggy,	5 00	five acres,	20
Saddle and Bridle, Man's	5 00	Do largest yield per acre of	
Saddle and Bridle, Lady's,	5 00	one acre,	10
Awarding Committee—J. B. Brant, Ful-		Do specimen one bushel white;	10
ton; Wesley O'Fallon, St. Louis; Henry		Do specimen one bushel red,	10
Flint, Lexington; C. H. F. Greenlease,		Do specimen one bushel spring,	10
Boonville; J. L. Matthews, Columbia.		Rye, largest yield per acre of five	
HEMP, ROPE, &c.		acres,	10
Cotton Bagging at least 50 yards,	\$10 00	Rye, specimen of one bushel,	
Coil bail rope made of hemp,	5 00	Oats, largest yield per acre of five	
Coil bail rope made of tow,	5 00	acres,	
		Oats, specimen of one bushel,	
		Meadow, largest yield per acre of	

five acres timothy, 10
Meadow, largest yield per acre of
five acres clover, 10
Clover seed, one bushel best and
cleanest seed, 5
Awarding Committee—Conrad Harness,
Boonville; Warren Stuart, Warrenton;
Joel Smith, Huntsville; Colonel Backner,
Paris; Paris Walker, Marshal; W. J.
McElhany, St. Charles; Henry Dixon,
Jefferson City

THIRD DAY. LIVE STOCK.

POULTRY.

Turkeys pair, \$2
Ducks pair, 2
Geese pair, 2
Chickens, Dorking, pair, 2
Chickens, Shanghai, pair, 2
Chickens, Poland, pair, 2
Chickens, Brahma Poutra, pair, 2
Greatest and best display of fowls, 2
Awarding Committee—E. Abbott, St.
Louis; John Provines, Fulton; James
Lusk, Jefferson City; Wm. Musgrove,
Lexington; H. W. Wilson, Columbia; H.
E. Moore, Boonville; Stephen Bynum,
Payette.

HOGS.

Bear over one year old, \$10
Bear over six months and under
one year, 7 50
Sow over one year old, 10
Sow over six months and under
year, 7 50
Pigs, pair under six months old, 7 50
Fat hog, barrow or spayed sow, 10
Awarding Committee—Wm. Robinett,
Columbia; John Combs, Boonville; C.
M. Brooking, Round Hill; O. Hurt, Prairie
Ridge; O. Anderson, Lexington.

SHEEP—LONG WOOLED.

Cotswold, Bakewell, Leicester
and New Oxfordshire,

Buck, \$10
Ewe, 10

MIDDLE WOOLED.

Buck, \$10
Ewe, 10

FINE WOOLED.

Buck, 10
Ewe, 10

Fat sheep of any breed, one, 8
[The exhibitors of sheep, in all cases,

are requested to furnish certificates of age
of sheep, and of age of wool on them.]

Awarding Committee—C. H. Bailey,
Fulton; G. W. Brown, Arrow Rock; Mr.
Garshwiller, Huntsville; John S. Clark-
son, Columbia; J. H. Baker, Boonville.

CATTLE—MISSOURI RAISED.

Bull four years old and upwards, \$10
Bull three years old and under four, 10
Bull two years old and under three, 10
Bull one year old and under two, 10
Bull under one year old, 10
Cow 4 years old and upwards, 10
Cow 3 years old and under 4, 10
Cow 2 years old and under 3, 10
Cow 1 year old and under 2, 10
Cow under 1 year old, 10
Oxen, yoke over three years old, 10

Awarding Committee—Jacob Tucker,
Boonville; J. W. Rollins, Columbia; W.
H. Bowman, New Franklin; Minor Wil-
liams, Huntsville; Thomas Rogers, Mi-
ami; Isaac McGirk, Lexington; Henry
Larrimore, Jones' Tan Yard.

FOREIGN.

Bull 4 years old and upwards, \$20
Bull 3 years old and under 4, 20
Bull 2 years old and under 3, 20
Bull 1 year old and under 2, 10
Bull under 1 year old, 10
Cow 4 years old and upwards, 20
Cow 3 years old and under 4, 20
Cow 2 year old and under 3, 15
Cow 1 year old and under 2, 10
Cow under 1 year old, 10

Missouri raised stock may be ex-
hibited in competition with foreign cattle at
the option of the owners.

Awarding Committee—Wm. Renick, Mi-
ami; T. Jenkins, Columbia; Wm. Pope,
Boonville; G. A. Nicholson, Fulton; C.
Talbot, Loutre Island; Robert McCann,
Paris.

FAT CATTLE.

Fat Bullock five years old and up-
wards, \$20
Do free martin or spayed heifer
4 years old and under 5, 15
Do free martin or spayed heifer
3 years old and under 4, 10
Do free martin or spayed heifer
2 years old and under 3,
Do free martin or spayed heifer

1 year old and under 2,
Awarding Committee—Thos. Tucker,
 Boonville; J. Estis, Columbia; John Viley,
 Roanoke; Gus. Elgin, Fayette; Thos.
 Barker, Paris; R. McNeill, Miami; P.
 Price, Brunswick.

SWEEPSTAKE PREMIUMS.

Bull, \$50
 Cow, 50

See Rules and Regulations.

FOURTH DAY.

MULES.

Mule 3 years old and upwards, \$10
 Mule 2 years old and under 3, 10
 Mule 1 year old and under 2, 8
 Mule sucking colt, 5
 Mule pair 3 year old and upwards, 10
 Mule pair 2 year old and under 3, 10
 Mule best adapted to saddle use, 10

Awarding Committee—Noah Robinett,
 Columbia; Jacob Maddox, Callaway; A.
 W. Davidson, Cambridge; T. Hughes,
 New Franklin; Joseph Fox, Paris; G.
 S. Cockrell, Pilot Grove; Dr. Thornton,
 Calhoun.

JACKS AND JENNETS.

Jack 3 years old and upwards, \$20
 Jack 2 years old and under 3, 15
 Jack 1 year old and under 2, 10
 Jack under 1 year old, 5
 Jennet 3 years old and upwards, 15
 Jennet 2 years old and under 3, 10
 Jennet 1 year old and under 2, 8
 Jennet 1 year old, 5

Awarding Committee—M. McKinn,
 Columbia; A. S. Walker, Pleasant Green;
 A. Murray, Bloomfield; W. Grimes, Fayette;
 Mr. Holiday, Lexington; Abram Mc-
 Pike, Ashley; Isaac Neff, Saline county.

BLOODED HORSES.

Stallion 4 years old and upwards, \$20
 Do 3 years old and under 4, 15
 Do 2 do do do 3, 10
 Do 1 do do do 2, 8
 Stallion colt under 1 year old, 5
 Mare 4 year old and upwards, 20
 Do 3 years old and under 4, 15
 Do 2 do do do 3, 10
 Do 1 do do do 2, 8
 Do under 1 year old, 5

Awarding Committee—T. January, St.
 Louis; A. Robertson, Boonville; W. B.

5 Sappington, Arrow Rock; B. H. McCarty,
 Jefferson City; Jas. J. Hickman, Colum-
 bia; R. M. Barnes, Concord; Geo. Was-
 son, Richmond.

HARNESS OR PLOW HORSES.

Stallion 4 years old and upwards, \$20
 Do 3 do and under 4, 20
 Do 2 do do 3, 10
 Do 1 do do 2, 5
 Do under 1 year old, 50
 Mare 4 years old and upwards, 20
 Do 3 do do under 4, 15
 Do 2 do do do 3, 10
 Do 1 do do do 2, 5
 Do under 1 year old, 5

Best pair of wagon or plow horses,
 to be exhibited in harness to
 a horse waggon, 10
 Pair carriage horses, 10
 Pair carriage mares, 10
 Gelding for harness, three years
 old and upwards, exhibited in
 harness, 10
 Mare for harness, three years old
 and upwards, exhibited in
 harness, 10

Awarding Committee—P. B. Owen,
 Green Connty; A. T. Wmson, Boonville;
 Chas. Hunt, St. Louis; John Sampson,
 Fulton; A. Morrison, Jefferson City;
 Richard Leonard, Columbia; D. C. Ste-
 wart, Danville; W. A. Davidson, Jefferson
 City.

SADDLE HORSES.

Stallion 4 years old and upwards, \$15
 Do 3 years old and under 4, 15
 Do 2 do do do 3, 10
 Do 1 do do do 2, 8
 Mare 4 years old and upwards, 15
 Do 3 do do under 4, 15
 Do 2 do do do 3, 10
 Do 1 do do do 2, 9
 Gelding 3 years old and upwards, 10
 Do 2 do do do under 3, 8
 Do 1 do do do 2, 5

Awarding Committee—T. L. Price,
 Jefferson City; C. F. Jackson, Arrow
 Rock; J. H. Sampson, Rocheporrt; H.
 Bunce, Boonville; Rob't St. Clair, Mexico;
 J. L. Morrison, Fayette; Mr. Calhoun,
 Concord.

SWEEPSTAKES.

Best Mule, \$50

Best stallion,

50

See Rules and Regulations.

Best pony of any breed, to be passed upon by sweepstake committee,

10

CAFE GIRARDEAU COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—To day we publish the constitution adopted at the organization of the County Agricultural Society, at Jackson, on the 4th inst. Than the science of Agriculture, there is none the prosperity of which so directly and to so great an extent affects the progress and general welfare of the community; and, consequently, none that has so just a claim upon the countenance and support of our people. What we wish to press upon the attention of our readers at this time, is the effort now making to introduce such improvements and advantages as may be desirable, by united action on the part of those disposed to aid in advancing a calling at once the most honorable and secure in which man can engage. Already a beginning has been made, and that a good one. The names of Ranney, Poe, Herrell, Oliver, Lacy, Davis, Watkins, English, Coker, Byrne, Williams, Welling, Kimmel, and many others of the same stamp, are a host when engaged in any cause; but when joined in an enterprise like the present, they present an array of strength that cannot be surpassed in Missouri, and which is of itself a guaranty of success.—*Eagle*.

Lands Restored to Market.

The Acting Commissioner of the General Land Office advertises that the lands heretofore withdrawn from market, outside of six miles and inside of fifteen miles from the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, in Missouri, will be restored to private entry on and after Monday, the 16th day of September next, at the prices fixed by the graduation act of the 4th of August, 1854, which requires the time to be deducted during which the lands shall have been withdrawn and withheld from market, on the day of restoration.

Pre-emption claims which attach to any of the above lands within the fifteen mile limits under the acts of 31 March, 1853, and under the acts of 27th March, 1854, to any of the lands hereby restored to market, must be proven up prior to the day fixed for the restoration of the lands to private entry, or as soon as practicable after seeing this notice.

Simultaneous applications for the same tract by two or more persons or parties, said tract will be put up at auction and awarded to the highest bidder among such applicants, according to the rule in such cases.

The land offices for these lands are at Palmyra, Milan, Fayette, and Plattsburg.

For the Valley Farmer.

KINKEAD, St. Francis Co., Mo. }

July 24, 1855. }

MR. EDITOR.—I feel that I ought to write something for the Valley Farmer, I think it is a duty we subscribers and farmers owe to the cause in which we are engaged.—But that *something* to write, is what puzzles me just now. I could say some pretty things in praise of the Farmer, particularly the Family Circle, but what is the use? No one with five grains of common sense denies we are all well satisfied; so some other subject must be noticed.

The crops—the prospect for bread is about as interesting as anything else at this time. Well sir, wheat harvest is now over. It was, I assure you, a delightful sight to see our farmers engaged in the pleasant, the delectable business of reaping a “golden harvest,” a plentiful crop of wheat. The quantity sown was at least 20 per cent more than usual, and the yield considerably more than an average. Of course we count on having “cake” down our way.

Corn, too, looks remarkably well—green, thrifty, large stalks, and tall enough for any use. I never have seen so fine a prospect. In fact, oats, grass, potatoes, garden vegetables and fruit, will be in great abundance. This year will be as long remembered for its bountifulness as last year will for its scarcity.

Under the influence of good crops, or reading the Valley Farmer, &c., our farmers are beginning to wake up to their best interests. Great improvements in farm management are perceptible. A good supply of reapers, mowers, threshers, and other agricultural implements have been introduced. They are even talking of forming an agricultural Society in this county. I incline to think we will do something more than *talk*. If your hear of such a thing you need not be surprised. We have some of the right kind of farmers; all they want is some one to give them a start in the right direction, and when once started, like a Crocket, they will go ahead. C.

Hot Weather—Beware of Excesses.

The delay of hot weather renders caution all the more necessary now that it has come. Statistics show that the largest number of deaths from imprudence happen when a cold spell is suddenly succeeded by one of intense heat; and the reason is that people, feeling the change acutely, thoughtlessly risk their health to get cool. A laborer becomes overheated, rushes to a hydrant, drinks cold water to excess, and perishes in a few hours. Another person seeks relief in juleps, cobbler and other misnamed "cooling drinks," and the result is increased excitement of the brain instead of diminished action there, often followed by sudden death. A third person is tempted by fresh fruit and either eats too much, or eats that which is not ripe, and he too pays for indiscretion with his life. A fourth, fifth, sixth, violate the laws of health in some other way, and are prostrated by illness, if not swept into the grave. And so it goes to the end of the chapter.

The virtue of temperance, at this period of the season, cannot be inculcated too strongly. We do not mean temperance in the use of distilled or malt liquors only, but temperance in all things, but especially eating, drinking, and work. A surfeit, when the thermometer is at ninety, is almost certain death. Even a slight overloading of the stomach, or the indulgence in some indigestible article of food, often leads to violent cramps, if not cholera in its worst form. But to eat too little, or to eschew meats or fruits altogether, as some theorists do, is an error only less dangerous. The safest way is to continue the usual diet, whatever that has been, taking care, however to indulge moderately, that is with temperance. So also with drinking. It is madness to imbibe spirituous liquor in the hope of being cooled, it is folly to injure the digestive organs by excessive indulgence in soda water or ice cream. Nature invariably suffers when attempts are made suddenly to cool a person who is heated. Moderation in all things is indispensable. To jump into a river, to quaff copiously of ice water, or to bring anything else that is cold into sudden contact with the body, when the latter is heated, is trifling with health and life.

Excesses in work are a fertile source of illness, and sometimes of death in sultry weather. No man perform as much labor on a hot day, or under a vertical summer sun, as he can in winter, or under cover. It is not only day laborers who are in jeopardy. Any unusual draft upon the nervous, or even muscular system, is sure to be felt at the seat of life. A wise man will always economise his strength in the summer. Who ever overworks himself in any way exhausts the nervous power, part

of which should have gone to assist the digestion; and the consequence is, that when he comes home, fatigued and hungry, to eat, a hearty meal, he is struck down by bilious cholera, dysentery or cholera. To throw off the garments when heated, and sit in a current of air, is a common error; and the seeds of many a consumption have been planted in this way, in healthy men. Be temperate in your labors and in your pleasures, in sleeping and in waking, if you would escape the diseases incident to hot weather, and which are so often fatal.—*Phil. Ledger.*

ICE HOUSES.—We had occasion some years ago to make some inquiries on the subject of ice-houses of Mr. N. J. Wythe, of Cambridge, Mass., who planned many of the extensive commercial ice-houses near Boston. Mr. W. constructs his ice-houses all above ground, with double walls or frames, as described by our correspondent, except that the space between the two walls is 2 1-2 feet at the bottom and 2 feet at the top; the spaces are filled with tan or saw-dust, but charcoal is better, and a thickness of 13 inches we should suppose sufficient to keep ice well. Mr. Wythe sets the posts which are to form the double walls or frames of his house in the ground.

The bottom of the house, he says, should be filled about a foot deep with blocks of wood; these are leveled and covered with wood shavings, on to which a strong plank floor is laid to receive the ice. Upon the beams above the ice a tight floor is laid and covered several inches deep with dry tan or saw-dust. The roof of the house should have a considerable pitch, and the space between the upper floor and the roof should be ventilated by a lattice window at each gable end, or something equivalent, to pass out the warm air which will accumulate beneath the roof.—*Louisville Journal.*

MOWING MACHINES vs. SCYTHES.—Now let us compare a little, the two modes of cutting grass. Day laborers, hired at \$1 per day, will probably mow in medium grass 1 1-2 acres to the hand; that is, it will cost \$5 or \$6 to mow 8 acres, and 25 cents each hand for boarding will be \$1.50 more, which, added to \$5.50, makes \$7 for mowing 8 acres. Now hire a man with a span of horses and machine to cut the 8 acres, at 50 cents per acre, and he will cut it in a day—\$4.00, and \$1.00 more will pay their boarding, making in all \$5.00, and the grass will be spread better for curing than a man will spread it after the 5 hands, which, in the estimate, will make \$8.00 advantage to the mower. At that rate, the machine will pay for itself in 40 day's mowing, besides saving so much hard labor.—*Ohio Farmer.*

ILLINOIS STATE FAIR.

To be held at Chicago, Ill.; Oct. 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th.

LIST OF PREMIUMS.

PREMIUMS ON FIELD CROPS—ILLINOIS.

To be awarded at a meeting of the Executive committee, in January, 1856.

Best crop of wheat, not less than 5 acres, nor less than 50 bushels per acre, Diploma, and \$20.

Best crop of Indian corn, not less than 5 acres, nor less than 100 bushels per acre, to be shelled and weighed between the 15th of Nov. and 1st of January, Diploma and \$50; 2d best, \$25. Best crop of Rye, not less than 5 acres, nor less than 50 bushels per acre, 25; Best crop of Oats, not less than 5 acres, nor less than 50 bushels per acre, 25; Best crop of buckwheat, not less 5 acres, nor less than 50 bushels per acre, 25; best crop of field peas, not less than 70 bushels per acre, 25; best crop of white beans, not less than 1 acre, nor less than 30 bushels per acre, 25; best crop of potatoes, not less than half an acre, nor less than 200 bushels per acre—specimens of quality to be exhibited at the fair, Diploma and 25; 2d best do, 10; best crop sweet potatoes, not less than one-fourth of an acre, 10; 2d do, 5; best crop of onions, not less than one-fourth of an acre, nor less 100 bushels per acre, 10; 2d do, 5; best 5 acres Hemp, 25; acre of flax, 10; acre broom corn, 10; acre clover seed, 10; acre timothy seed, 10; acre blue grass seed, 10; acre flax seed, 10; acre of eastern beans, 10.

FIRST DAY.

CLASS A.—CATTLE, ILLINOIS.

I. Short Horns—Bulls.

Best bull 4 years old and over, \$12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best bull over 3 years and under 4, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best bull over 1 year and under 2, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best bull calf under 1 year old, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6.

COWS.

Best cow 4 years old and over, \$12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best cow 3 years old and under 4, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best heifer 2 years old and under 3, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best heifer over 1 year and under 2, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best heifer calf under one year old, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6.

II.—Devons.

Best bull 3 years old and over, \$12; 2d do, 8; best bull 2 years old and under 3, 12; 2d do, 8; best bull 1 year old and under 2, 12; 2d do, 8; best bull calf under 1 year old, 12; 2d do, 8.

Cows.

Best cow 3 years old and over, \$12; 2d do, 8; best heifer 2 years old and under 3, 12; 2d do, 8; best heifer 1 year old and under 2, 12; 2d do, 8; best heifer calf under 1 year old, 12.

III.—Herefords.

Premiums, etc., same as Devons.

IV.—Ayrshires.

Premiums, etc., same as the Devons.

V.—Native and cross between Native and improved cattle.

Best cow 4 years old and over, \$12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best cow 3 years old and under 4, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best heifer 1 year old and under 2, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best heifer calf 1 year old, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6.

VI.—Milch Cows.

Best milch cow \$12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

VII.—Premiums for Stock from other States.

Diplomas for the following: Best bull three years old and over; bull 2 years old and under 3; bull 1 year old and under 2; bull calf under 1 year; best cow 3 years old and over; best heifer 2 years old and under 3; heifer 1 year old and under 2; heifer calf under 1 year of age.

VIII.—Fat cattle of any breed.

Best 3 fat bullocks, spayed heifers or free martins 3 years old and older, \$12 2d do 8; best fat bullock, spayed heifer or free martin 3 years old and under 4, 10; best steer, spayed heifer or free martin 2 years old and under 3, 10; best steer 1 year old and under 2, 8, best steer calf under 1 year old, 8.

IX.—Working Oxen and Steers exhibited in the yoke.

Best 3 yoke of oxen from one county, \$12; best yoke of oxen 4 years old and over, 10; best yoke of oxen under 4 years of age, 10; to boys under 18 years of age, training yoke of steers 3 years old and under 4, 12; 2d do 8; to boys under 16 years of age, training yoke of steers 2 years old and under 3, 12; 2d do 8; to boys under 15 years old, training yoke of steers 1 year old and under 2, 12; 2d do 8.

The oxen competing in team, cannot compete single.

X.—Sweepstakes.

Open to every county in the State, and to all breeds of cattle. For the best ten head of calves, male and female, under 1 year old, from any one county in the State, Diploma and \$50; 2d do, Diploma and 40—the Diploma to be deposited with the clerk of the county court of the winning county. Best 3 cows and 3 heifers under 3 years old, to be owned by the exhibitor, Diplomas and 20; 2d do, Diplomas and 10.

CLASS B.

HORSES, JACKS AND MULES.

XI.—Thorough breed.

Best stallion over 4 years old, \$12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best stallion colt over 3 years old 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best stallion colt over 2 years old, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best stallion colt over 1 year old, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6.

6; best brood mare over 4 years old, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best filly over 3 years old, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best mare colt over 1 year old, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best sucking colt 10. Undoubted pedigree of all thorough bred horses exhibited must be furnished to the committee or no premium will be awarded.

XII.—Horses of all work—Roadsters.

Best stallion colt over 4 years old, \$12; 2d do, 8; do, 6; best stallion colt over 3 years old 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best stallion colt over 2 years old, 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best stallion colt over 1 year old 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best brood mare over 4 years old 12; 2d do 8; 3d do, 6; best filly over 3 years old 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best filly over 2 years old 12; 2d do 8; 3d do, 6; best mare colt over 1 year old 12; 2d do, 8; 3d do, 6; best sucking colt (horse or mare), 10.

XIII.—Draught Horses for Farm Purposes.

Best stallion for draught, 4 years old and over, \$12, 2d do 8, 3d do 6; best 3 years old and over, 12, 2d do 8, 3d do 6; best 2 years old and over, 12, 2d do 8, 3d do 6; best 1 year old, 12, 2d do 8, 3d do 6; best gelding 3 years old and over, 10, 2d do 6, 3d do 3; best 2 years old over, 10, 2d do 6, 3d do 3; best brood mare for draught 4 years old and over, 10, 2d do 6, 3d do 3; best filly for draught 3 years old, 10, 2d do 6, 3d do 3; best filly for draught 2 years old, 10, 2d do 6, 3d do 3; best mare colt for draught over 1 year old 10, 2d do 6, 3d do 3; best sucking colt 10, 2d do 5; best pair of draught horse for farm use 12, 2d do 8, 3d do 6.

XIV.—Matched Horses Geldings and Mares for Carriages.

Best pair of matched horses or mares \$15, 2d do 10, 3d do 5.

XV.—Geldings and Mares for Light Harness single.

Best gelding or mare 4 years old and over, \$10, 2d do 5; best 3 years old and over, 10, 2d do 5; best for saddle, 4 years old and over, 10, 2d do 5.

XVI.—Horses from other States.

Best stallion over 6 years old, in each class above, if worthy, Diploma; best brood mare in each class above, if worthy, Diploma; best Jacks and Jennets from other States will be entitled to receive the same as horse—Diplo.

XVII.—Jacks and Mules.

Best Jack 4 years old and over \$12, 2d do 8, 3d do 6; Jack 3 years and under 4, 12, 2d do 8; Jack 2 years old and under 3, 12, 2d do 8; Jack 1 year old and under 2, 12 2d do 6; Jennet 4 years old and over, 12, 2d do 6; Jennet 2 years old and under 4, 12, 2d do 6; Jennet 1 year old and under 3, 12, 2d do 6; Jennet 3 years old 12, 2d do 6; pair of Mules for draught or farm purposes, 3 years old and over, 15, 2d do 10; pair of matched mares for

carriage, of 3 years old and over, 15, 2d do 10; single Mule over 2 years old 8, 2d do 6; single Mule over 1 year old and under 2, 8, 2d do 5; Mule colt, 8, 2d do 6.

XVIII.—sweepstakes.

Open to every county in the State and to all breeders. Best ten colts, horses, ass, or mule from any one county Diploma & \$50.

CLASS C.—SHEEP—ILLINOIS.

XIX.—Long Wool.—Bakewell.

Best buck over 2 years old \$8, 2d do 6; buck under 2 years 8, 2d do 6; pen of 5 ewes over 2 years old, 8, 2d do 6; pen 5 ewes under 2 years old 8, 2d do 6; pen 5 ewe lambs 8, 2d do 6.

Middle Woolled. Southdown, Norfolk, etc.

Best buck over 2 years old, \$8, 2d do 6; buck under 2 years old 8, 2d do 6; pen 5 ewes over 2 years old 8, 2d do 6; pen 5 ewes under 2 years old 8, 2d do 6; pen 5 ewe lambs 8, 2d do 6.

XX.—Merinos and their grades.

Best buck over 2 years old \$8, 2d do 6; buck under 2 years old 8, 2d do 6; pen of 5 ewes over 2 years old 8, 2d do 6; pen of 5 ewes under 2 years old 8, 3d do 6; pen 5 ewe lambs 8, 2d do 6.

XXI.—Fat Sheep.

Best fine long woolled, over 2 years old \$5, fine long woolled under 2 years 5, fine middle woolled over 2 year 5, fine middle woolled under 2 years 5.

FOREIGN SHEEP.

XXII.—Long and middle Woolled.

Best Long Woolled buck Diploma; pen of 5 ewes do; pen of 5 buck lambs do; pen of 5 ewe lambs do, best Middle Woolled buck do; pen of 5 ewes do; pen of 5 buck lambs do; pen of 5 ewe lambs do.

XXIII.—Merinos and their grades.

Best buck Diploma; pen of 5 ewes do; pen of 5 buck lambs do; pen of 5 ewe lambs do.

XXIV.—Saxons and their grades.

Best buck Diploma; pen of 5 ewes do; pen of 5 buck lambs do; pen of 5 ewe lambs do.

XXV.—Shepherd's Dogs.

Best trained Shepherd's dog \$5; 2d do 2.

CLASS D.

XXVIII.—Swine—Illinois.

Best boar for use in this state \$10; 2d do 6; boar 1 year old 10; 2d do 6; boar 5 months old and under 1 year, 6, 2d do 3; breeding sow over 2 years old 10, 2d do 6; breeding sow 1 year old 10, 2d do 6; sow six months old and under 1 year, 6, 2d do 3; lot of pigs not less than 5 and under 10 m's 5, 2d do 3; Aged sows must have suckled a litter during the season.

XXIX.—Foreign Hogs.

Best boar 2 years old and over Diploma; sow 2 years old and over do.

CLASS E.—Poultry.**XXX—Open to all.**

Best lot of Dorkings, not less than 3—1 cock and 3 hens \$3; lot of Polands not less than 3; pair of Shanghais 3; pair of Cochins China 2; lot of Turkeys not less than 2 3; lot of Muscovy ducks not less than 2 3; pair of Si-lesian ducks 2; pair of Poland ducks 2; lot of small ducks 2; lot of Guinea hens not less than 6 2; pair of China geese 2; pair of large geese 2; pair of wild geese 2; best show of various breeds of poultry, owned by exhibitor 6; best exhibition of pigeons 3.

CLASS F.—Farming Implements,—Open to all**XXXI—Plows.**

Best plow for old ground prairie Diploma; 2d do \$10; plow for clay soils Diploma, 2d do 10; prairie plow for two horses Diploma, 2d do 10; timothy and blue grass sward plow Diploma, 2d do 10; subsoil plow Diploma, 2d do 10;

XXXII—Rollers, Harrows, Cultivators, etc.

Best cornstalk roller or cutter, for disposing of corn stalk, clods and litter lying on the field Diploma, clod crusher and roller combined do; field roller do; horse rake do; wheat cultivator (two horse) do; corn cultivator do; harrow do.

XXXIII—Shovels Hoes, Rakes, Forks, etc.

Best six hay forks Diploma; 6 manure forks do; lot of grain measures, do; lot of butter tubs and firkins, do.

xxxiv—Drills, Cornplanters, etc.

Best gauged grain drill, diploma, 2nd do \$10; corn planter for horse power for hills, diploma, 2nd do 10; hill corn planter (hand power) diploma, 2nd do \$10; corn and seed planter for horse power drill, diploma, 2nd do \$10.

xxxv—Harvesters, Mowers, etc.

Best reaper diploma, 2nd do \$10; reaper and mower diploma, 2nd do \$10; mowing machine diploma, 2nd do \$10.

xxxvi—Other Agricultural Implements.

Best threshing machine diploma, horse-power for general purposes do; portable saw mill, do; corn and cob mill, do; hemp and flax dressing machine, do; corn cutting machine for shocking, do; broad cast sowing machine, do; fanning mill, do; clover seed hulling machine, do; hay rigging, \$5; hay pitching machine, diploma; hay press diploma, 2nd do \$10; corn sheller (by horse power) do; corn sheller (hand power) do; straw and hay cutter, do; smut machine, do.

xxxvii—Miscellaneous Household Implements.

Best churn diploma; cheese press do; potato washer do; clothes machine do; spinning wheel for flax, do; spinning wheel for wool, do; mangle or machine for ironing clothes, do.

xxxviii—Plowing Match—Open to all.

First premium \$12; 2d \$5. The furrow slice to be not less than 8 inches deep nor than 12 inches wide; best trench plowing not less than 15 inches deep \$23.

CLASS G.**FARM PRODUCTS, FOOD, CONDIMENTS,****STARCH, ETC.****xxxix.—Wool—Open to all.**

Best fleeces of fine wool as to be exhibited by the grower, Diploma; best fleeces coarse wool Diploma.

xl.—Grain and Vegetables.

Best sample of wheat not less than 1 bushel \$5; best sample rye 3; oats 3; best sample Indian corn bushel in ears 5; sample buckwheat 5; sample clover seed 5; sample bluegrass 5; sample orchard grass 8; sample different varieties of Indian corn in ears 5, sample table potatoes not less than 1 bushel 5, 2d best do 3; best sample of seedling potatoes, 6 specimens 5; sample sweet potatoes not less than 1 bushel 3; sample onions not less than 1 peck 5; best sample white table turnips not less than 1 bushel 5; sample beets for table use 1 bushel 3; parsnips for table use 3; sample salsify not less than 8 bunches 3; best 12 stocks cellery 5; 12 heads cauliflower 5; 12 heads cabbage 5; 1 peck tomatoes 5; 1 peck egg plants 2; half peck peppers 5; half peck lima beans 5; do pole beans 5; do bunch beans 5; do field peas 5; sample greatest variety of garden peas 5; best lot of pumpkins 5; lot of squashes 5; lot of watermelons 5; other melons 3.

xli.—Illinois Flour and Starch.

Best barrel of flour (Illinois wheat and manufacture) to be exhibited by the maker, with the statement of variety and quality of wheat used to make it 5, 2d best 3; best starch not less than 10 lbs. wheat 5; best starch not less than 10 lbs. potatoes 3; best starch not less than 10 lbs. Indian corn 5; best ground madder Diploma.

xlii.—Illinois Hams, Butter and Cheese.

Best 2 Illinois hams boiled \$3, 2d do 2; best 10 lbs fresh butter 3, 2d do 1; best 20 lbs butter made in May or June 3, 2d do 1; best butter in tub or ferkin, not less than 50 lbs, made at any time during the year 5, 2d do 3; best Illinois cheese, 1 year old and over, 10; best Illinois cheese and 1 year older 5, 2d do 3.

xliii.—Illinois Honey, Sugar, Preserves,**Bread and cereal food.**

Best lot of honey not less than 10 lbs, with written statement of hive and treatment of bees \$5; best preserves of peaches 2; do of quinces 2; do of tomatoes 2; do of tomatoes in cans 2; best fresh preserve tomatoes 2; do of peaches 2; do of grapes 2, with written statement of preservation; best 3 loaves of baker's

broad, of wheat 5: best 3 loaves of rye 2: best 3 loaves domestic bread, wheat 5: do of rye 2: best sponge cake 2: best pound cake 3: best fruit cake 3: best crackers not less than 5 lbs 3.

XLIV.—*Products of the Orchard.*

Best and greatest variety of apples, named and labelled, not less than three of each variety \$10: best 12 varieties of the table apple 5: 6 varieties of winter do 5: 12 specimens of seedling apples 5: best and greatest variety of pears named and labelled 10: best specimens of autumn pears 5, do winter do 5: do seedling do 5: best 12 varieties peaches, labelled 10, 2d do 5: best 12 peaches 3: 6 specimens of seedling peaches 3: collection of plums 3 of each variety 5: 3 varieties plums 3: show of plums 3: best variety nectarines 3 specimens 5: do of apricots 5: specimens quinces 5: best variety of native grapes 5: do foreign grapes 5: best 6 bunches grapes 5: best 12 bottles Illinois cider 1 year old and over, 10, 2d do 5: best 6 bottles wine Catawba grapes Diploma and 10, 2d do other grapes 10: best 3 bottles from any other fruit 5: best treatise on the culture of fruit trees and vines Diploma & 10.

CLASS H.

TEXTILE FABRICS AND FINE ARTS.

XLV.—*Manufactures of Illinois.*

Best fine broad cloth 10 yards, Diploma: coarse do diploma: best satinett 5: best flannel 5: best bed blankets 10: best woolen yarn 5: fine woolen socks machine made 3: pair mittens 3: best cassimere 10 yds 5: cotton sheeting do 5: printed calico do 5: best cotton thread 5: pair buckskin mittens 2: buckskin gloves 2: sowing silk 1 lb, Diploma: best silk best silk cloth 5 yds Diploma: best linen cloth 10 yds 10: linen thread 1 lb 5: neat cheap made bed quilt 5: neat cheap made shirt 5: cheap bed and bedding 10: best made coat 5: do pants 5: do vest 5: best two horse carriage 15: carriage for one or two horses 10: one horse carriage 10: best night car for railroads Diploma: best carriage harness 3, pair coarse boots 3: pair fine do 3: best substitute for leather do 10: best daily newspaper diploma: best monthly, diploma: best blank book do: best table neat and cheap 5: bureau 5: bedstead 5: 20 lbs maple sugar 5: 20 lbs beet sugar diploma.

XLVI.—*American Fabrics—open to all.*

Diplomas for the following: best 10 yards black broadcloth: do blue do: 10 yds woolen carpet factory make: 10 yds satinett: 10 yds cotton shirting, bleached: do do unbleached: 10 yds oil cloth: 10 yds prints: 10 yds muslin de laine: 10 yds broadcloth from American wool: plaid blanket: India rubber cloth: chamber: cotton rope and cord: yarns: hearth rug: tapestry velvet: carpet chain: cheap cordage: best hesiorp...

XLVII.—*Needle, Shell and Wax Work—Illinois.*

Best evidence of taste and skill in plain needle work \$5 2d do 3: best by girls under 14 5, 2d do 3: best specimen of darning or repairing 5, 2d do 3: do do by girl under 14. 5, 2d do 3: best made plain fine shirt 3, 2d do 2: best do by girls under 14, 3, 2d do 2: best plain domestic worsted quilt or spread 5: best white domestic countpane 6: do do knotted 5, best calico quilt, patch work or otherwise 5, best silk do 5, best evidence of taste in ornamental needle work 3, best needle worked collar and handkerchief 2, do laced cape 2, do laced veil 2: do dress for child 2: best braided dress for child 5: best specimen of crochet work 5, 2d do 3, best evidence of taste and skill in worsted embroidery 3, best ottoman cover worsted embroidery 2: best table cover do 2. best chair cushion and back do 2, best woolen shawl do 2: best pair lamp stands and mats do 2, best evidence of taste and skill in silk embroidery 3, best saddle cloth do 3, best dressing gown do 2. woolen shawl do 2: best sofa cushion do 2, best mantilla do 2, best table spread do 2: best handkerchief case, toilet cushion or portfolio 1, best silk bonnet 5, best braid of straw or grass made by exhibitor 2, best evidence of taste and skill in ornamental shell work 5, best do in wax flowers 2, best do in spice flowers 2.

XLVIII.—*Paintings, Drawings, etc.*

Best specimen of animal painting in oil by American artist Diploma, 2d do 10 3d do 5, best specimen animal painting water colors, American artist diploma, 2d do 5, 3d do 3, best specimen in oil by foreign artist, diploma, 2d do 5, 3d do 3: best do in water colors, diploma, 2d do 3, 3d do 2: best daguerotype of domestic animal, diploma, 2d do 3, 3d do 2, best specimen of fruit painting diploma, 2d do 3, 3d do 2, best specimen of flower painting, dip 2d do 3, 3d do 2: best specimen of cattle drawing dip., 2d do 3, 3d do 2, best specimen drawing of fair grounds for the Society, diploma: best specimen Monochroms, dip, 2d do 3, 3d do 2, best specimen Tolbetypes, dip., 2d do 3, 3d do 2: best daguerotypes, dip., 2d do 3, 3d do 2: best specimen Illinois landscape in oil, by an Illinois artist, dip., 2d do 10, 3d do 5, best specimen of fancy painting in oil, by an Illinois artist, dip., 2d do 10, 3d do 5: best specimen copperplate engraving by an Illinois artist, dip, 2d do 10, 3d do 5, best specimen of wood cut or engraving by an Illinois artist, dip., 2d do 6, 3d do 3, best specimen Lithography by an Illinois artist dip., 2d do 10, 3d do 5: best specimen of porcelain painting and gilding by an American artist, dip., 2d do 5, 3d do 3: best specimen pencil drawing by an Illinois artist, dip., 2d do 5, 3d do 3: best specimen Crayon drawing, dip., 2d do 5, 3d do 3: best specimen Topography by an Illinois artist, dip., 2d do 3, do 2, best specimen of writing by do dip., 2d do 3, best electrotyping, dip., 2d do 3, best sculpture by Illinois artist, dip., 2d do 10 3d do 5, best carving in wood, dip., 2d do 2, best architectural drawing by an Illinois artist, diploma, 2d do 5, 3d do 3.

XLIX.—*Designs and Models—open to all.*
For the best original design for farm house, cost not exceeding \$500 at Chicago, dip., 2d

do \$5 best design farm house, cost not to exceed \$1000 at Chicago, dip., 2d do 10, best design for cottage, cost not to exceed \$5000 at Chicago, dip.; best dwelling of any kind not to exceed in cost \$2000, dip., 2d do 10; best design for farm barn cost not to exceed \$500, dip., 2d do 5; best farm barn not to exceed \$1000, dip., 2d do 5; best carriage house with horse stable, cost not to exceed \$500, dip., 2d do 3; best poultry house, dip.; best milk house, dip., 2d do 5; best ice house, dip., 2d do 3; best smoke house, dip., 2d do 3; best dry house for curing hops, dip., 2d do 2; best rat and mouse proof corn crib, dip., 2d do 2; best hog pen or house, dip., 2d do 2; best apparatus for steaming food for animals, dip.; best farm gate hangings or fastenings, wood or iron, dip., 2d do 3; best design for road bridge, one or two hundred feet span, dip., 2d do 5; best design for road bridge, fifty to 100 feet span, dip., 2d do 3; best design for grape frame, dip.; best design for Diploma for use of this Society for 1857, cost not to exceed \$60 per 100, 20.

CLASS I.—METALIC FABRICS, MECHANICS, &c.
L.—Stoves, Castings, and cast Metals, and Brass and Bell Foundry Ware.

Diplomas for the following: best cooking stove for wood fire, best do for coal, best parlor stove, best apparatus for warming dwelling and public buildings, best apparatus for cooking range, best pig iron for car wheels, do for machinery, do for plate castings, do for bar iron, best ornamental cast iron vase on pedestal, best cast iron gate, best iron fence, best church bell, best steamboat bell, best locomotive bell, best hotel signals, best lot of brass work.

LI.—Worked Metals (iron, tin, brass, copper, zinc, type, etc.) and hardware, (except castings, cutlery and fine worked metals.) American manufacture.

Best six axes, best iron gate for farm purposes, best iron wire hurdle fence, best iron wire of varied sizes and great tenacity, best iron wire or brass gauze sieves, screens, etc., best iron boiler plate, best sheet iron, best tin plate, best bank lock, best steel door lock, best inside lock, best door latch, best window spring, best gate fastenings, best door hinges, best wood screw, best specimens of saddlers' hardware, best horse shoe nails, best cut nails, best hose coupling, best wire nail, best wire copper, best brass or copper ware, best brass cocks, best brass tubing, best copper tubing, best gas burners, best candlesticks, best shovels and tongs, best fire irons, best screws, best bolts, best tacks, best bar iron, best rod iron, best hoop iron, best anvils, best chain cables, best log chain, best trace chains, best cast steel, best shear steel, best blistered steel, best shear steel.

LII.—Fine worked metals, plate, cutlery, plated, gilt and galvanized, ware clocks and watches, and jewelry, American manufacture.

Diplomas for the following: best chronometer, watch, clock, compensation pendulum, clock week, clock day, plated ware, gilt ware, silver galvanized ware and wire, gold do, copper do, brass do, made silver plate, chandeliers, girandoles, set joiner's tools, set carpenter's tools, set of cooper's do, set currier's do, display of mechanical tools and cutlery.

LIII.—Philosophical, chemical, surgical, dental, drawing, painting, surveying and leveling instruments and apparatus, etc., of fine workmanship, exhibited by maker—American manufacture.

Diplomas for the following: best set of surgical instruments, set of optical instruments, dentist's do, display mathematical and philosophical instruments, best specimen of dentistry, best theodolite, best level, best surveyor's compass, best achromatic telescope, best reflecting telescope, best optical apparatus, best balance, best thermometer, best barometer, best electro magnetic apparatus, best electro telegraph apparatus, best electric machine, best galvanic battery and apparatus, best set drawing instruments, best fine cutlery not before specified, best pins, best needles.

LIV.—Machinery, Engines, etc.—American manufacture.

Best steam engine, best fire engine, best hose reel, best garden engine, best ornamental fountain, best kiln for drying grain, meal and flour, best contrivance to prevent explosions in steam boilers, best wagon and carriage brake, best cattle scales, best balance scale for common use, best lath machine, best single machine, best stave machine, best boot lasting machine, best ditching machine, best drain pipe or drain tile machine, best pump for a well, for farm use, best pump for cistern, best water ram or other hydraulic apparatus, best boring machine for salt wells and artesian wells, best lead pipe machine, best flour packing machine, best card machine, best portable flouring mill, best brick making machine, best stone dressing machine, best stone sawing machine, best mortar mixing machine and mason's tender, best mortising and tenoning machine, best shoe peg machine, best leather splitting machine, best improvement in turning.

CLASS K.—MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT.

L.V.—Vehicles

Diplomas for the following: best display of choicest carriages of various kinds, display of choicest buggies of various kinds, wagons, carts, sleighs of various kinds, farm wagon for all purposes.

LVI.—Cabinet Ware—Open to all.

Diplomas for the following, best dressing bureau, sofa, lounge, extension table, office chair, set parlor chairs, kitchen chairs, centre table, dining table, set of cottage furniture, set of superior parlor furniture, set of plain parlor furniture.

LVII.—Musical Instruments.

Diplomas for the following, best grand, or semi-grand piano forte, bound air piano, square piano, violin par or organ, melodeon, solian, dulcimer, flute, clarinet, set of band instruments.

LVIII.—Cooper's and Carpenter's and Basket Maker's Ware.

Best specimen of pine ware (Coopers') \$3, best cedar do 3, best oak do 3, window shades 3, window blinds 3, osier willow and manufacture 3, baskets of split stuff 3, made doors 3, made window sash 3, four barrels 3.

LIX.—Farrier's, Currier's, Trunk Maker's, Saddler's and Shoemaker's Products—Illinois.

Diplomas for the following, best travelling trunk, carpet bag, ladies' satchel, pair gents' summer boots, pair gents' winter boots, pair ladies' summer walking shoes, pair ladies' winter walking shoes, pair gents' slippers, pair ladies' slippers, gents' buckskin gloves, gents' do mittens, ladies' tawnskin gloves, do long fur and doeskin mittens, fur caps, plow harness, wagon harness for farm, carriage harness, saddle and bridle for general purposes, sole leather, upper do calf skins, do other kinds, morocco leather, riding saddle gents' do, spring seat, do ladies, do spring seat, harness horse collars, do hames, enameled leather, water proof polish.

LX.—Bookbinder's and Papermaker's Products, Hatter's, Tailor's and Upholsterer's Work.

Diplomas for the following; best suite of bound books, Illinois, do American manufacture, letter paper, note paper, foolscap paper, drawing paper, pasteboard, tinted papers, printing paper of various kinds and sizes, paper hangings and borders, hats, for, hats, silk hats, straw caps, cloth made suit of clothes by hand, made suit of clothes by sew machine, curled hair, curled hair mattresses, moss do, husk do.

CLASS L.—CEREMIC, CHEMICAL AND NATURAL PRODUCTS.

LXI.—Glass, Crockery, Stone Ware Bricks and Tiles—American Manufacture.

Diplomas for the following, best specimen of Rookingham ware, specimen of stone ware, specimen of ground glass, specimen of stained glass, water pipe of water lime, sample of drain tile, looking glasses, plate glass, window glass, flint glass ware, cut glass ware, bottle glass, bottles green glass, vials do tubing glass, [Thermometer Barometer, casing, &c.,

tincture and other stopped bottles and vials, retorts and receivers, tubulatum and plain terra cotta.

CLASS M.—FLOWERS AND PLANTS.

LXVI.—Professional and Amateur—Open to all.

Cut flowers, greatest and best variety named \$10; best display unnamed 8; Dahlias, greatest and best variety, 8; 2d do 6; best 12 dissimilar blooms, 4; 2d do 2; best and greatest display, 6; Roses, greatest and best variety, named 4; best 12 named 6; best 6 named; 2; Verbenas, greatest and best variety, 4; do best display 4; do best show of this year's seedling, 2; Asters, greatest and best variety, 4; best display Phloxes best, 1; do seedling of this state, 2; Gladiolus, best display, 2; Petunias, greatest and best variety, 4; best display, 2; Pansies, greatest and best variety, 4; best display, 2; Best collection of green house plants, diploma; do in bloom, 6; 2d best do 4; best and most tastefully arranged large vase of cut flowers, 6; do pair of small do 4; do large pan or basket do 2; do small do 4; best and most tastefully arranged pair flat hand bouquets, 4; 2d best 2; best round do 2; 2d best do 2; best collection of wild flowers in bloom and named, 4.

LXVII.—Berries.—Open to all.

Best half peck cranberries, domestic culture, 4; 2d do 2; best quart monthly raspberries 4; best demijohns Diploma; best carboys do; best fire bricks do; best tiles do; best pottery, various kinds do.

LXII.—Chemicals and Products of Chemical Action, of Illinois manufacture, to be exhibited by Manufacturers.

Diploma for the following; Best Ivory black, prussian blue, copal varnish, glue, bra slate of potash, linseed oil, white lead, specimens of soap, specimens of tallow candles, specimens of star candles, castor oil, lard oil to be tested, not only for fluidity at low temperature and beautiful appearance, but its burning qualities, and gumming of wick, and time of burning without trimming, starch, alum, potash, salaratus, pearlash, nitric acid, sulphuric acid, muriatic acid, bromine, iodine, nitre, alcohol, hydraulic cement, lime, boiled gypsum, composition for burning in lamps, composition for roof, water, fire, and frost proof, writing ink, sulphuric ether, chloroform, acetic acid, formic acid, aldehyde, colodion, chloride of lime, substitute for guano and bird manures, disinfectant, vinegar, printer's ink, litho paint raw, do in oil, blacking, flint glass, optical glass, rose water, attar of roses, oil of peppermint, other essential oils, barrel salt,

LXIII.—Miscellaneous Metal.
LXIV.—Miscellaneous Wood and Stone, Illinois, Worked.

Diplomas for the following, best specimen statuary, mil stone, grindstone, dressed stone,

whetstone, hone, oil stone, marble, polished, shingles, staves and heading, split or shaved hoops, shoe lasts, shoe pegs, split mach staff, turned articles,

MISCELLANEOUS.

LXV.—*Natural Material*.—(Illinois).—Open to all.

Diplomas for the following; best suite of the useful minerals of Illinois, including coals of Illinois, iron ores, lime-stones, marbles, sand-stones, marls, peats, salts, salt waters, minerals, potters clay, fire clays, buhr stones, gypsum, for the suite; best collection of specimens illustrating the geology of the State of Illinois, diploma & 10; collection do native woods, dip. 10; greatest and best collection of named insects, dip. 10; best botanical collection, dip. 8; zoological; do, dip. 8; suite of crystallized minerals of Illinois, dip. 5; suite of minerals from all parts of the world, dip. 5; suite of fossils of Illinois, dip. 5; specimen of peat, not less than 25 lbs. the produce of the prairies of Illinois, and adapted for fuel, dip. 5; specimen, not less than 100 pounds, of bituminous coal—Illinois, dip. 5; cannel coal do dip. 5.

TOADS.

A correspondent of the *Cambridge Chronicle* puts in a plea for toads, and justifies his partiality by the following, which we extract from his communication:

"We have in our garden a small nursery of plum trees, which have been nearly destroyed by the canker worms. Last season we commenced shaking them off. One day we observed many toads about these trees that on our approach become frightened and retreated in great haste to their retreats in the neighboring bushes. Soon finding that they were not pursued they commenced hopping back, and caught with avidity each canker worm as it descended on its tiny thread. We counted some time 30 immediately round our feet. Day after day we fed them with their favorite food, and they became so tame as to follow us, watch our hand, and take the worm from our fingers.

This is new to us, though it may not be to many of our readers; but whatever taste the toad may have for canker worms, we are quite sure that it does a world of good in a garden, by destroying earth worms, of which it eats large numbers. We once tried to surfeit a toad with earth worms, but our patience was appeased, and we have always held that to destroy

one of these disgusting looking reptiles was doing one's grounds a deal of injury. There is no charge brought against the toad but its disagreeable appearance, and it might well quote the old saw to those who despise it without seeking to learn its real value—looks are nothing, behaviour is all.

CORN CROPS.—An old gentleman, a farmer, came into our office a few days ago and lamented bitterly the present state of his corn crop. We asked him what had happened: if the chinch bug had sapped the stalks, or if the storms had blown them up by the roots? "Neither," said he "but I shall have at least 10,000 bushels of corn more than I can use." We didn't consider it much matter of regret, and tried to console him as best we could. A short ride in the country in the early part of this week, convinced us that there has not been so fine a prospect for corn in this county for years. In many fields we counted three, four and as many as five shoots or ears on a stalk; and we may fairly calculate the yield this year as far greater than that of any year within our memory.—*Fulton Telegraph*.

Pretty well for Callaway, but not equal to the oat crop in Boone, where, according to the Statesman, a man had to haul away sixteen wagon loads in order to make room in the field to stack the balance!

WHO CAN BEAT IT?—Mr. Wm. C. Frazer, living eight miles West of this place, sowed, last fall, 7 3/4 bushels wheat upon 10 1/2 acres of ground, which he has just threshed and delivered to one of our produce buyers, which weighed out just four hundred and fifty-one bushels! just forty-two bushels per acre, and fifty-six nine-tenths fold amount sowed.

We have seen statements of the yield of wheat in Macoupin published, in several quarters, which we have not published knowing that we could do better than anything yet presented to the public. A friend furnishes the foregoing, by no means the only instance of the kind. The entire crop has been purchased by James Fishback, for shipment.—*Carlinville Spectator*.

Weights and Measures.

FARMERS, look to your weights and measures. Examine your scales, and if you discover any variation from the true standard, have them repaired and sealed the first opportunity. The consequences of delay may prove more unpleasant or injurious than you apprehend. Though you may have little use for them, they should be correct. You are constantly buying, selling, lending and borrowing of your neighbors in small quantities, and either meeting with small losses by such neglect or taking more than is your due, and the fact that you are ignorant may not be duly considered. The affair is too trifling to care for or mention at first, but after a few such occurrences the confidence previously reposed in you begins secretly to diminish with your neighbors. Such carelessness lays one in the way of slanders, and who is free from calumny? Says one,—"Mr. H. is a very good neighbor, many ways kind and obliging, but it may be well to examine the weight and measures of his small parcels when he thinks he will escape notice." "He is not apt to give too much, unless in case he is purchasing," says a second, rather willing to endorse the auspicious opinion. "I have heard such complaints before," says another. Soon his enemies, (for who has no one who would, through envy or otherwise, try to injure him?) hear and circulate, and he is subjected to criticism if no worse.

I remember a circumstance of this kind. A young farmer sold a small dairy of butter to a dealer residing in the same town. They had known each other for years. I am well acquainted with both, and know the farmer to be strictly honest, upright, and very exact in all his dealings, priding his word the same as his note for any competent amount. He weighed the firkins in the customary manner, marking the weight of each on the head thereof. When the butter was delivered it was taken out of the tubs and re-packed in smaller ones for a particular market,—a thing, by the way, understood by both parties at the time sale. The firkins being emptied of their contents were placed upon the scales and found to weigh, upon an average, two or three pounds too much. The purchaser communicated this fact to the farmer, and desired an explanation. The latter replied that he could not account for the discrepancy, but said there must be a mistake somewhere, and refunded the money paid him to the satisfaction of the dealer. But the circumstance became known and was noised about, as might be expected, by the eloquent ears of evil gossip, attended with many animous hints upon the young man's integrity. But the reason soon came to light. The firkins were weighed with an old pair of

steelyards, a relic of a former generation, being once the standard and ordinance of the whole neighborhood, but now so old and worn as to fall three pounds in twenty below the true weight. The farmer, seeing how often he had been deceived by their use in small matters of deal, now caught them in a rage, and bent the yard double.—*Rural New Yorker.*

CURE FOR SCOURS IN CALVES:—I noticed an inquiry through the *Maine Farmer* a few weeks since, for a remedy for scours in calves. I would just say that last season I had a calf which scoured badly. I gave him a few doses of tea made of strawberry leaves, which wrought a perfect cure. I also had a cow four years ago, which was nearly dead with the same complaint, and the same medicine cured her.—*Maine Farmer.*

How We Did It.

Some twelve years since my father bought a farm which was "worked to death," as the neighbors said. Well, we soon found out how it had been worked, when we put a heavy team and new plow at work, and the virgin soil was turned up six inches below the four inches worked to death. Our neighbors prophesied a failure, and when our crops vied with and exceeded their own, they were full of surmises as to the wonderful strangers so successful in renewing such till-killed soil.

"What manure did you put on that field?" a neighbor asked of my father one morning, as they were looking at the deep green, waving corn growing so rankly therein.

"Plowed deep, plowed deep," answered he; "there's nothing like plowing deep, and thoroughly pulverizing the soil, to bring good crops in all kinds of weather."

That field had been used as a meadow some fifteen years, producing from one-fourth to one half a ton of hay to the acre. We broke it up deep, planted one year, sowed to oats, the next with clover and timothy, and the third year, cut two tons of fine hay to the acre.

Another field had been used for oats the same length of time. We plowed deep, but had poor oats, as so much deep, new soil was turned up, never having been exposed to the weather, a hard and almost impenetrable crust having been formed at the depth of three or four inches, where the plow had scraped for years. As soon as possible we grazed it, and had excellent meadows, where others thought nothing but a bad weed, called devil gut, could grow.

All the pasture land had a vigorous growth of elders on, but we "fixed them by plowing, and carefully picking up the roots, drawing them in piles to some large log or stump heap,

and enjoying a beautiful bonfire after they had become well dried; so, ended all troubles with our "elders," but not better, as they had failed to establish themselves in our estimation as such.—*Cor. Ohio Farmer.*

Wire Fences, Made by Machinery.

It might not occur to a casual observer, that the fences of the United States cost more than twenty times the amount of all our specie; nevertheless such is the fact. There is no country on the dial of the globe, so well furnished with wood and stone—the common materials for fencing—as many portions of this; yet so great is the cost of fencing here, that it has become a burden, "grievous to be borne," on our national industry. Many of our states have little or no rock, from which to make stone walls; those formerly occupied by prairies have little wood from which to make rail fences; and our soil, climate and physical geography are such, that hedges or live fences are altogether impracticable. Solon Robinson, Esq., the able agricultural editor of the *New York Tribune*, says, that in all his travels, he has never seen but one good live fence in the United States; and that, he observes, was "protected on one side by a board fence, and on the other by a rail fence."

Indeed, the agricultural mind of the country has long been conscious that a total revolution must, sooner or later, supervene in our modes of fencing. *Iron fencing* has been suggested, and, doubtless, would have come into general use, but for the want of a method of making it by machinery. This great want has at length been supplied. JOHN NASHBURN, Esq., a prominent man in the manufacturing interests in Lowell, has invented and patented a machine for the manufacture of *wire netting*, for fencing, trellis-work and other uses, considerable quantities of which have been made and sold by the Lowell Wire Fence Company.

This fence consists of a strong and beautiful netting, woven by the machine, varnished with asphaltum, blacking, coated with coal tar, painted or galvanized, rolled up in portable rolls, from thirty to sixty rods in length, and sold to consumers at from sixty cents to one dollar and fifty cents per rod—the price varying to the height of the fence, the size of the mesh, (or squares,) and the number of the wire. It can be readily set up by any ordinary farmer, and no rails are necessary, but the netting is fastened by wire or staples, to posts of wood, iron or stone, placed from eight to fifteen feet apart, and the edge of the netting is to be kept on a level from one terminus to another. When properly set, it is strong enough to "hold" an ox, and too close to be penetrated by a chicken. If varnished, painted or tarred once in five or six years, it

is calculated to last a century or more. It offers so little resistance to wind and tide, that no gale can blow it down, or flood wash it away. If fastened to posts, set upon feet instead of being set in the ground, this fence may be laid flat on the land, or entirely removed on the approach of the flood-season in districts subject to floods, and set up again as good as ever, when the flood has subsided. It excludes none of the rays of the sun; it harbors no weeds, or vermin; it covers none of the soil, like hedges and walls, and the peculiar mode of its texture enables it to undergo without the slightest injury, that alternate expansion and contraction to which all metallic substances are subjected by the change of temperature incident to the atmosphere. All who have examined or tried it, attest that it possesses in the highest degree, those seven cardinal qualities in a perfect fence or trellis-work—strength, closeness, beauty, lightness, portability, cheapness and durability.

Many kinds of this netting are made, adapted to all uses, from cattle-fencing to window-netting. All sizes of wire are used, from No. ten to No. eighteen; and any kind can be made, suited to fencing for cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, gardens, cemeteries, parks, roads, railroads, trellis-work, etc. Among those who have tried this mode of fence, is Richard S. Fay, Esq., the popular agricultural lecturer, who writes of it as follows:

"Boston, Jan. 5, 1855.

"Sir:—Your favor of Jan. 2d is duly received. I have used the Lowell Wire Fence during the past summer, for folding sheep at night on land that I wished to manure, shifting once or more every week, and have found it answers the purpose perfectly. I have also enclosed an acre or two of ground with it for the purpose of keeping a few sheep separate from the flock. If properly set, it would hold anything, and for smaller animals, particularly sheep, it is impossible that they should break it down or escape from it. I have had some iron rods made with a double foot, which I drive into the ground and attach the fence to it, either by copper wire or stout twine. A man and a boy will enclose a quarter of an acre in less than an hour, having posts, which should be set not more than a rod apart.

When I change the fence to a new spot, I unfasten it from the posts—throw it down—begin at one end, and roll it up as you would a carpet. And so in resetting, reverse the process, rolling it out where it is to be set; drive down the posts, and then raise it and attach it to them. My fence cost \$1.50 per rod, and it is a cheap mode of handling or enclosing at that price, and understand now that it is made much cheaper. Truly yours, RICHARD S. FAY."

For the Valley Farmer.

MADISON Co., Mo., July 28, '55.

MR. EDITOR.—Having a few brief moments to spend I know of no better way of spending them than to write a few words for the "Valley Farmer."

Crops in this county were never better than at present. Wheat was unusually good, but owing to the large quantities of rain that is and has been falling for several days past, wheat, oats and meadows are doing very bad. If we had a little more Book farming than we have in our county, I think it would be of the greatest advantage to us. Some of our citizens when interrogated about subscribing for the "Farmer," will say "I don't know how he (the Editor) who lives in St. Louis, can tell us how we should carry on our farms. I have even offered to one of my friends, a young farmer, if he would take the "Farmer" and was not pleased with it, to pay him back his money at the end of the year. Well, he "allowed it was a good paper, but he didn't care anything about it." Then we are not to think strange at our county being behind the northern counties in point of agriculture and other sciences. Such things as fine cattle, sheep, hogs, &c., are scarcely known among us, but of the worst quality we have plenty.

Now, Mr. Editor, if you or any of your correspondents can contrive any plan to give us a start in this almost forgotten part of Missouri, you will please let us hear what it is.

As this is the first that I have written for your paper, I will close for the present, with the following question: "When is the best time to break clover land for wheat so as not to lose the seed?"

Yours truly, C. P. S.

Exhibitions—Shows—Fairs.

These three words are used in the same sense, or synonymously, in this country; thus the same society announces, one year, its fair, the next its show, and the next its exhibition. There is, however, a difference in the meaning of these words, and it is desirable to secure some degree of uniformity.

A Fair, in other countries, signifies a place

of sale, or, more nearly, a market-day, occurring at long but regular intervals—as once a year, once in six months, once a quarter, or otherwise. In this country, ladies hold fairs for the sale of their work for some charitable purpose. In England, these are called FANCY FAIRS. At Jamesburg, N. J., the farmers meet together once a year, and each one offers for sale whatever he may have to part with. This is legitimately a fair.

A Show is a display of the outside qualities of an object. It is a general term embracing every thing set forth, but referring merely to that which strikes the eye; a show is not a matter of taste or action, but merely a curiosity.

AN Exhibition, on the contrary, presents some effort of skill, talent or genius.

Show is the more vulgar term. A top shows his clothes. We show wild beasts; we exhibit paintings. One man shows a monster ox; another exhibits his skill in breeding a valuable class of animals, which may make less show but are more prized than the overgrown specimen. One shows a tree of unnatural growth; another exhibits his skill in shaping and combining pieces of wood so as to produce the most perfect implement. The conjurer shows his tricks; the artist makes an exhibition of his works. We show our dress; we exhibit our traits of character. We look at a show; we study an exhibition.

We go to a fair to buy or sell; we go to a show to see and be seen; we go to an exhibition to examine the works of others and derive new thoughts and new principles for our own future guidance.

Some of our annual agricultural gatherings are not only exhibitions, but also at the same time are fairs and shows. Some go to drink and carouse and see the show. Some go to sell or buy animals, seeds, &c., at the fair; while some go to learn what agricultural improvements have been made and how they have been made. The first of these persons will judge of a reaper by its paint, or its outward appearance; the last will examine it carefully to see if it has the combination and arrangement of parts necessary to make it an effective implement. The first only benefits the show, by contributing to its funds; the last does the same thing for the exhibition, and at the same time benefits himself and neighbors by the information he gathers and carries home.

As our annual gatherings are designed for the display of improvements, of inculcating information in cultivation, stock breeding, use of implements, &c., we thing they should be uniformly styled EXHIBITIONS, leaving fairs for sales gatherings, and shows for show-men. To call them cattle shows, does not convey

their full import. Where provision is made for sales of stock, &c., let them be styled exhibitions and fairs, thus—the New-York State Agricultural Exhibition and Fair. We trust our contemporaries will discuss this subject; and, if possible, let us have some uniformity in the use of terms.—*American Agriculturist*.

TAR, A REMEDY FOR HORSE DISTEMPER.

Thomas W. Ladd, of Smithfield, Jefferson county Ohio, writes, the Ohio Farmer that he has found a remedy and cure for "distemper" in horses. He says:

"Having three colts sick with this disease, an experienced farmer told me to use tar, and he thought the sick colts would soon recover, and that those who had not taken the disease would not have it at all, or but lightly. I followed his direction, to my entire satisfaction. I gave the colts morning and evening as much as I could readily get into their mouths with a paddle. After a few applications, the sick ones commenced running at the nose, their appetites returned, and in a short time they had entirely regained what they had lost from disease. The others never took it to my knowledge. Some prefer mixing fishing oil with the tar, but I used it alone, and I believe it to be entirely sufficient, if the article be good, pure tar. I would have no faith at all in the coal tar now in use in some places."

ILLINOIS STATE FAIR.—A letter from Col. Morgan, Superintendent of the Chicago and Alton Railroad, announces that the usual facilities of half fare will be granted to all persons, desiring to attend the State Fair at Chicago next October. Stock exhibited at the fair will be carried over the road free of expense, but must be accompanied by the owner or other person to take charge of it. J. T. Carter, Esq., Superintendent of the Great Western road, has offered equally favorable facilities to passengers and stock.

STONE COAL—IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—A vein of stone coal has been discovered on the farm of Capt. Wm. Carson of this county, about six miles north-west of Palmyra. It was found in a ravine about two feet below the surface, the vein having an eastern dip at an angle of about ten degrees. The thickness of the strata is on an average of five feet. The fact of its existence has been known to Mr. Carson for some time, but its nature and extent were not fully developed until within a few days past. Mr. Evan, an experienced Welch collier, has gone into the bank, for a distance of about 18 feet; at this point the coal is found to be very hard and of an excellent quality. The quantity is doubtless inexhaustible, and as this is the opinion of the collier, we have no doubt that it exists there

to an almost unlimited extent. We saw some specimens a few days since, and so far as we are able to judge it was in no wise inferior to the ordinary coal in the markets. When it is remembered that the land has just been opened, and that these deposits of coal are invariably found to improve in quality the farther the vein is worked, we have no hesitation in saying that we have coal deposits in Marion equal in quality, if not in quantity to any in the State. We congratulate Capt. Carson on the fortunate discovery, as it must necessarily prove of great value to him personally, and of incalculable advantage to the country at large. This simple discovery should be hailed with a feeling of joy by the citizens of Palmyra, inasmuch as there is now no obstacle to our rapid progress in manufactures, and the mechanical arts. The road from here to the coal banks is one of the best in the county, and with very little grading could be level enough to put down a rail track for cars. The cost of getting the coal to this market will be but a trifle, and we have no doubt that the entire prairie country will soon be supplied almost entirely with fuel from these deposits.—*Palmyra (Mo.) Whig*.

The Farm Elephant.

In reply to our inquiries, some time since, as to the amount of provender required per day by Mr. Barnum's *Farm Elephant*, he has sent us the following interesting note with a transcript respecting soaking potatoes in *copperas* water.

THE FARM ELEPHANT—COPPER-BOTTOM POTATOES.

SIR—In answer to your inquiry in regard to the diet and weight of my working elephant, I would state that he eats on an average one bushel of oats and one hundred pounds of hay per day, Sundays and all! His weight is 4,700 pounds. He will accomplish any kind of work set before him, and uses ten times better judgment than three-fourths of the "help" which I am obliged to employ on my farm. Above all things, he is not an *eye-servant*. Once set him at work piling wood, picking up stones, or any thing else, and you can leave him without fear of his playing "old soldier" in your absence. Another capital negative quality is, that he don't pick up his duds and start for home exactly at six o'clock in the afternoon, as many other farmer's "assistants" do. He is willing to labor till sundown, and even later, if work is pressing. On the whole, he is a very honorable, industrious, intelligent and well-behaved farmer; nevertheless, I can not conscientiously recommend elephants as the *cheapest* workers on a farm. They can not work in cold weather, and

could eat themselves up, trunk and all, in a single winter. A Truly yours.

P. T. Bannum.

P. S.—Do let me improve this opportunity to caution my brother farmers against "believing all they read in the papers." About planting time I read in a newspaper that a sure preventive of the potato rot was to soak the seed potatoes in water with an ounce of sulphate of copper to the gallon. I tried it, and it did prevent mine from rotting and from chitting. After they had been two weeks in the ground my man dug them up, and found them sound inside, but as dry and hard as a bone on the outside, with not the slightest prospect of their ever exhibiting any natural signs of life. They were perfectly "copper-fastened!" Luckily I only experimented on a small portion of my potatoes, and discovered the joke in time to remedy it by planting potatoes in their natural state.

New England Farmer.

P. T. B.

N. E. Missouri—The Canton Reporter, speaking of the progress of Knox county, says: "The population of this county is increasing rapidly at the present time. Immense tracts of vacant land in that county are being entered at the Palmyra Land Office and we are pleased to learn that those who are entering intend becoming actual settlers. The sales at the Land Office at Palmyra continue large, and are mostly of land lying in the extreme North eastern counties. The emigration to these counties during the last two years has been quite heavy, and, instead of diminishing, is greatly increasing. In a very few years the North-east will be the most densely settled portion of Missouri. We are pleased, too, with the kind of people who are seeking our vacant land. They are generally from Kentucky, Virginia, Illinois and Tennessee and are practical farmers and mechanics. There is yet room for many such."

Clay County Agricultural Society—The Clay county Agricultural Society in connection with Col. Doniphan, has purchased the tract of land belonging to Cyrus Brashear, Esq. (77 acres.) at \$50 per acre, the Society taking twenty acres, nearly all of which is in the corporate limits of the city, at \$80 per acre. The purchase is a good one, and most admirably adapted to the purpose of the Society, having plenty of water and is well shaded by forest trees, and besides, is very accessible. We hope to see the grounds put in good order, and that they will not only be used by the Agricultural Society, but for the purposes of May Day, Fourth of July, and other celebrations. Our city needs some such places for public exhibition in connexion with its schools.—Liberty Tribune.

Making and Keeping Butter.

How to make good butter, and to make it remain so? are important inquiries for the dairy-farmer, and considerations justly entitled to his careful attention and earnest investigations.

The months of May and June, in our opinion are the most favorable in the year for making good butter; nature then seems to have awakened from a season of repose—the new grown feed possesses a sweetness and flavor consequent only to the early summer, which imparts a color and richness to the cream that is seldom seen later in the year.

The cows too, having had their time of rest furnish better milk and greater quantities than they do after a long summer's drill, and the consequence is, much of the butter which we consume in after months is then made. How important then that it should not only be well made, but so packed as to retain its perfection to the last. To effect this every particle of butter-milk should be extracted; none but rock salt should ever be used, for a small share of the butter-milk if suffered to remain, will, like the gangrene, spread its destructive influences throughout the entire mass, rendering it rancid and unfit for use. And rock salt is preferable because its preserving qualities are superior to other kinds, and of course, will cause the butter to remain sweet a longer time. Butter designed to be kept should be packed as soon as it is ready, and it should be put into packages made of the right timber and properly prepared. The best timber for this purpose we think from the experience we have had, is white hemlock, white oak, and white ash; the heads and sides of the cask should be made firm and thoroughly saturated with salt before the butter is packed.

When a tub is filled at different times, pains should be taken to keep the air from the separate layers, and the salt from evaporating. This may be done by laying on linen cloths covered with a quantity of coarse salt sufficient for the purpose. It is an easy matter to make good butter when the cows have good feed and the milk is kept in the right temperature, at almost any season of the year; but what we would endeavor to impress upon the mind of the farmer is, to learn how to make butter in the early part of the season, and pack it in such a manner that it will remain good through the year. We are confident that it can be done—and we feel sure if the good sense and skill of our farmers can be directed to this object we shall very soon have our market supplied with butter equal to any in the world. All that is necessary is to have the butter well wrought, salted, and packed.—Hartford Co. Transactions.

The Garden and Orchard.

The Use of Fruit.

Perusing your paper of the 14th June, the article, extracted from "Hall's Journal of Health" strikes me as peculiarly appropriate, and deserves to be read, and thought be had thereon. Living on the very verge of a cypress swamp, and for the past 25 years, (within a few months,) I have had some practical observation of the health of people, and particularly of cotton-field negroes, in connection with fruit.

Usually I have an abundance of fruit, and when so, our negroes have free access at mid-day only, unless they lay aside a portion at that hour, or commit a trespass—both of which are done. When our peach crop fails not, we gather at noon by the basketful, as also of apples. These are brought to the cook-house, and each darkie has as much as he desires. We also gather figs at the same time, very often to the bushel in quantity. Melons are heaped in when convenient, and when in full season each negro takes his melon each day and toddles off. We never forbid fruit except after sundown.

In bygone days, I peddled pills, by way of helping to feed the young'uns, which gave me some insight to others' management. As the writer in the Journal justly says, our negroes are generally healthy—of course there are exceptions, and much more disease on some plantations than others. Fruit in season, in forenoon, noon, or afternoon, I have found to be a great preservative of health. I have known injury to result from fruit, but always by an abuse. I remember, about 1817, my father lost a negro man from apples, but he had secreted them in his bed while quite sick, and when an Allopathist M. D. was dosing him with calomel, jalap, rhubarb, &c., perhaps—so it even doubtful whether the Doctor's drugs, the disease, or a dose of apples killed the negro. I also knew a dose of corn-bread and buttermilk to kill a white man; he was pronounced convalescent from cholera, and six hours after the aforesaid dose, he was dead—no mal-treatment by the M. D., for "me ipsum" was the Doctor.

My residence in the south has been very near fifty years—I do not say I had had a residence elsewhere though—with much experience among working men, black and white, or vice versa. Had I a family of children, large and small, I would provide fruit, not only as a luxury, but as a remedial agent. Fruit preserves the regularity of the bowels, it keeps them in a soluble condition, it provides the acids and sweets mixed in the very

best proportions. I would do it for a higher purpose—that the appetite might be preserved from a desire for liquor; for with an abundance of our luscious fruits, we can not desire the less—spirits that are injurious.

I have eaten ripe peaches, even with a dose of calomel in me, often, and yet I never experienced harm.

Would it could be that every owner of an acre of land would plant one or more fruit trees.

I send you other specimens of the Alfalfa, *alias* Lucerne. Since writing to you, I see others are calling Alfalfa by its proper cognomen. I would I had fifty acres of it.

Best Strawberries and Cherries.

Several members of the Fruit Growers' Society of Western New York met in Rochester on the second instant, for the examination of strawberries and cherries. After a thorough examination, a vote was taken by ballot in regard to the best single variety, best three varieties, best six varieties, and the best market sort. The following is given in the *Country Gentleman* as a summary of the decisions. The votes comprise several of the most distinguished horticulturists in Western New York:

Strawberries.—From the preceding it will be observed that for the best single sort, Burr's New Pine had three votes, Large Early Scarlet had two, and Walker's Seeding, Cushing, and Genesee had each one.

For the three best, Burr's New Pine had six votes, Walker's Seeding had five, Genesee three, Large Early Scarlet three, Cushing two, and Hovey, Crimson Cone, Moyamensing, and McAvoy's No. 1, each one vote.

For the six best, Burr's New Pine had six votes, Walker and Large Early Scarlet each five, Genesee four, Moyamensing and Hovey each three, Crimson Cone and Ellwanger & Barry's No. 1 each two, and Old Hudson, Iowa, Jenney, Cushing, Orange Prolific, Trollop's Victoria, and Triomphe de Grand, each one vote.

For bad strawberries, McAvoy's Extra Red polled a full vote, evidently on account of its flavor, which is very sour and very poor. Cushing, strangely enough, had two for its bad quality, and yet was placed by one as best of all. This is to be accounted for by the fact that it is large, handsome, well formed, and productive; while its peculiar flavor is very much disliked by some.

Cherries.—Six votes for Governor Wood as best, and two for Mayduke. For the three best, Gov. Wood and Black Tartarian had each four votes, Mayduke three, Yellow Spanish and Mezel two each, and Downer's Late,

Sparhawk's Honey, Knight's Early Black, Reina Hortense, Belle Magnifique, and Belle d'Orleans each one vote.

The Strawberry Question.

It is estimated that, with the season just closed, there has been grown in the vicinity, and sold in the Cincinnati markets, some three thousand bushels of strawberries. This is about one-third below the annual average, in consequence of a partial failure in the crop of *Washingtons*.^{*} Of this variety more is cultivated than any other, because of their early ripening and hardy culture.

They are also a more certain crop than any other variety, as a general thing; but just in the nick of time, a severe frost, and prevalence of cold winds, while the fruit was in bloom, cut them short for this season.

Among amateurs, this berry receives but little attention, on account of its pale appearance and absence of flavor, though it is considered among field growers as a *money making* berry. It rarely ever freezes out in winter, or burns out in summer. The Early Scarlet is also extensively cultivated on account of its hardiness and prolific bearing.

I promised in my last to give you the crop of, and cash receipts for, strawberries grown by John C. Youtey, of Campbell county, Ky., eight miles from Cincinnati. I have selected Mr. Youtey—not because he was the largest grower—but because I could more readily obtain his statistics.

He has raised and sold about one-tenth of all the strawberries vendible in our markets the past season. His varieties, &c., being the three following: Two acres of *Washingtons* which produced sixty bushels, and sold for four hundred and twenty dollars. Five acres of "*Hovey's Seedlings*," which produced one hundred and seventy-eight bushels, and sold for twelve hundred and sixty dollars. Three acres of "*Hudson*," which produced one hundred and two bushels, and sold for five hundred and thirty dollars. Gross receipts from ten acres, two thousand two hundred and ten dollars. The expense of picking, including boarding of hands, was two hundred and twenty-five dollars. Expense of marketing, seventy-five dollars. The probable cost of cultivation per annum is fifteen dollars per acre. Mr. Youtey cultivated all his strawberries on new, but very hilly ground. In each variety, he has the past season excelled, and defied competition. In "*Hovey's Seedling*," let me assure you without the fear of contradiction, that he never was beat in this country—twice taking the first premiums at our horticultural exhibitions, against amateurs, market gardeners, and everything else.

We regret that Mr. Barry did not find it convenient to spend one day while here, with the Kentucky growers of strawberries. There are some fifty acres in cultivation in one settlement, within eight to ten miles of our city.

More than half the strawberries vendible in our markets are grown on that side of the Ohio river. The receipts for sales by Mr. Culbertson, a neighbor of Mr. Youtey, was twenty-five hundred dollars.—*Horticulturist*.

^{*} Known also as the Iowa.—Ed.

Melon Apple.

A late number of the *Horticulturist* has a beautiful cut of this apple, which is now obtaining so great celebrity in New York and the East. We have never seen but a single specimen of the apple. About nine years ago a friend returning from Central New York, brought us some specimens of different varieties of fruit, and among them some Northern Spys, over which he seemed to desire us to be much elated. After tasting these, we came upon a rich, red, good sized, asymmetrical apple, and which seemed to us to excel any apple we had ever eaten. On enquiring the name of it we were told it was a new variety called the "*Melon*" apple. We have never forgotten that fruit, and are not surprised at the celebrity it is now attaining. Judging by that specimen, it is as much superior to the Northern Spy, as the Spy is to a cucumber. True, a further acquaintance with it might modify our opinion of it somewhat; but we are ready to say of it, as we have said of single good speeches, that the man who could make one such ought to be able to make more.—*Prairie Farmer*.

MANMOTH STRAWBERRIES.—The cabbages of California are famous for their size; they have had their day in items. The Sacramento Union is now giving California strawberries a turn. It says:

"The largest specimen of the many strawberries presented is of the shape of a fig leaf, and measures six and a half inches in circumference latitudinally, and five and a half inches longitudinally. This is by far the most enormous strawberry we have ever seen or heard of, and we challenge the world to produce its equal. Only think of a single strawberry measuring over a half a foot in circumference! Other specimens in the basket, of pine-apple measure from three to five inches in circumference, and ten of the largest weigh one quarter of a pound. These huge samples of our most luscious fruit were raised in the famous garden of A. P. Smith, on the American river, three miles above Sacramento."

Raising and Preserving Tomatoes.

To many persons there is something unpleasant, not to say disgusting, in the flavor of this excellent fruit. It has, however, long been used for culinary purposes in various countries of Europe, and has of late been extensively cultivated, and become a general favorite in this country. Dr. Bennett, a professor of some celebrity, considers it an invaluable article of diet, and ascribes to it very important medical properties. He declares:

1. That the Tomato is one of the most powerful deobstruents of the *Materia Medica*, and that in all those affections of the liver and other organs where calomel is indicated, it is probably the most effective and least harmful remedial agent known in the profession.

2. That a chemical extract will be obtained from it which will altogether supersede the use of calomel in the cure of disease.

3. That he has successfully treated diarrhoea, with this article alone.

4. That when used as an article of diet, it is almost a sovereign remedy for dyspepsia and indigestion.

5. That persons arriving from the east or north to the south or west, should by all means make use of it as an aliment, as it would, in that event, save them the danger attendant upon those violent bilious attacks to which almost all unacclimated persons are liable.

6. That the citizens in ordinary should make use of it, either raw, cooked, or in the form of a catsup, with their daily food, as it is the most healthy article in the *materia alimentaria*.

THE BRITISH HARVEST.—A late letter from London says:—"The prospects of the harvest are becoming more favorably every week. The weather has been uninter, uptedly fine for a long time, and has removed the danger of the late ripening, which at one time was the chief thing to be feared. The breadth of land sown with wheat this year is very large, and the opinion of the probable yield per acre is likewise very encouraging. Should all go on in this respect as well as there is reason to hope, no doubt need be entertained of the steady course of the money market, whatever may be the extent or the complications of the war."

PEACHES.—The fact that some southern tribes of Indians have orchards producing superior peaches, has led many persons to suppose that the fruit was among the products of America, when first discovered. This is an error. The peach was introduced into Louisiana by the Spaniards, prior to its settlement by the French. It has since grown spontaneously; and in many respects apparently indigenous; but the original fruit was imported. It is believed that this fruit has been produced throughout the world, from the stock originally obtained in Persia.

SINGULAR FREAK OF PEAR TREES.—A friend of ours who delights in a very fine garden, embracing choice pear and other fruit trees, this spring regretted the decay and death of several of the former. They were cut up and cast beside the fence, to be used for purposes as might be required, and accordingly were layed on for bean poles. After being lopped to suit their new vocation, and stuck in the ground, it was not long ere they gave signs of life, and leaves put forth, and new they are in full bloom and blossom. What will be the upshot of this matter, whether a new life, or only a last struggle, remains to be seen.—*Albany Express.*

SCARCITY OF WEEDS.—It has been frequently remarked the present season by residents of the West, that the nauseous, rank and annoying weeds that generally spring up over the entire face of nature, where there is soil enough for the deposit of the smallest seed, are very few and far between. The growing crops have been but slightly disturbed by these intruders, and in many places, plow boys are, felicitating themselves upon a total exemption from plowing corn. The cause of this somewhat remarkable and blessed riddance is the protracted drought of last summer, which while killing the grain did not spare the weeds; drying them up before they went to seed. So there must be one favorable mark placed to the account of last year's drought.—*Boston Courier.*

GREAT YIELD.—The *Charleston Mercury* learns, that on a field of seven acres adjoining the Swedish Iron Works, in union district, South Carolina, 367 1-2 bushels of fine wheat have been raised the present season, being at the rate of 52 1-2 bushels to the acre. It was manured with 300 lbs. of Guano to the acre.

FACTS ABOUT CATTLE.—It is fact that domestic animals can be improved in size and value. One hundred and fifty years ago, the average weight of cattle at Smithfield market was not over 370 pounds, and that of the sheep 28 pounds. Now, the average of the former is over 800 pounds, and of the latter 80 lbs.

The Farmer's Nursery.

Every farmer of good taste and judgment could have, at a trifling cost of trouble and expense, a small nursery of his own, to propagate fruit, forest and ornamental trees—to stock and embellish his farm. A small lot of ground set apart for the purpose, convenient to the house, or adjoining the garden, would soon become a favorite spot to enjoy an hour of relaxation from the more severe labor of the farm, in the useful employment of grafting and budding fruit trees, planting and transplanting ornamental and useful forest trees.

Grafting the apple and pear is best done when the trees are the size of the little finger; but it may be done on trees of any age and size, by heading down the tree, or lopping off the branches intended to graft upon, but care should be used to leave enough branches to keep up a circulation in the trunk, and shade the graft from the direct rays of the sun, which might otherwise kill the tree. March is the proper month to secure scions for grafting, which may be set about the time the sap begins to circulate, or the danger of freezing is over. Grafting can be done in several modes; but crown and cleft grafting is the most common and far the most profitable mode of propagation. It is done by cutting off the stock, and splitting it down with a sharp knife—giving to the graft a wedge-like form, and beveling inwards from the bark to the pith, with shoulders, to rest upon the crown of the stock, when pressed into the cleft, the bark of the stock and scion to be smooth, and come in close contact. Simple potter's clay is frequently used for binding the graft, to exclude the air; but the process being rather dirty, a composition made of three parts beeswax, two parts rosin, and one part tallow, melted together, and spread upon strips of muslin, is a pleasant substitute, and will expedite the operation.

"Safe budding, safe finding," is a good motto, in grafting fruit trees. Take a square piece of cloth and make a hole in the centre, large enough to admit the graft, then slip it down on the stock and turn upwards, and bind it round the stock with a string—it serves to turn cold, sleety rains, and protects against severe frosts that sometimes occur after the grafting has been done. In selecting scions to graft, take but one from each limb, that you may have the joint between the two years' growth, to make the wedge to set in the stock; the bilge of the joint being curly and porous, is more certain to catch the sap from the stock, and will be more likely to grow.

Stone fruit can be propagated in like manner, but is more uncertain, because in nearly all of which the bark of the stock runs round, and in making the cleft the bark will tear

rough, and the graft will be likely to fail in growing.

Inoculation, or budding is the best method to propagate peaches, cherries and plums.—The operation is performed in the month of August, or at any time when the bark of the tree will leave the wood freely.

Choose a smooth part of the stock intended to be inoculated, and with a knife make a vertical slit down the stock the depth of the bark, one inch or more in length, then a cross cut, at the top of the downward cut, making the form of a letter T; then with a dull knife raise the bark off each side of the cut, sufficient to admit the bud, which must be of the present year's growth. With a sharp knife, shave off the bud deeper than the bark, an inch or so in length, then separate the wood carefully from the bark, then slip the bud into the incision, placing it firmly under the bark of the stock, the sap of the bud and the sap wood to come in close contact, then bind it fast with woollen yarn, above and below the bud—some care will be necessary not to bind too tight, and loosen it occasionally as the bud expands in growing. The next spring the stock can be cut off, about three inches above the place of inoculation, to which must be fastened the shoot of the bud, to keep it firm against high winds. In the fall, as soon as the leaves have dropped from the shoot, the stock should be cut off close to the bud, that it may the more readily be healed over the coming summer. Moist, cloudy, wet weather, is the best time to do this business.—Grafting has but one advantage over budding—grafts can be brought from a distance, while buds can only be used on the premises, with any certainty of success. Grafting and budding is an operation so easy and simple of itself, that it can be performed by any one—by boys of twelve years of age, who should be instructed in the art, and whose taste should be carefully cultivated for this pleasing and useful branch of agriculture.

Abundance of good fruit gives a small farm more than half its intrinsic value, and without fruit, farmer enjoys but a medium of the blessings intended for his use. A farm looks naked without trees—for fencing, for building and for fuel, they are the farmer's best resource. Besides their value for timber and fruit; planted in open and exposed situations they improve the climate of the neighborhood. About farm buildings they afford shade and shelter to man and beast. Planting woodlands should be encouraged by liberal premiums from agricultural societies. In most of the old settled States, the farmers are beginning to feel the want of wood for fencing material, while they contain vast tracts of land wholly unproductive, which if planted with the

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yellow locust, the chestnut and other trees would soon make a profitable return, and in a measure supply the deficiency occasioned by the extravagant waste of timber. The business of planting will be a new branch of rural economy, more formidable prospectively than in practice, for it may be managed with but trifling expense, by ordinary farm laborers. Seeds of our forest trees may be easily gathered in their proper season, and sown, raised and planted without interfering much with the ordinary duties of farming.—*Cor. Dollar Newspaper.*

HORTICULTURAL.—Wm. C. Bryant, the well known poet and editor, had engaged to address the horticultural society on occasion of their late exhibition in New York. Ill health prevented, but he was kind enough to communicate in a letter, which was read to the society, the topics on which he designed to speak. We make the following extracts from that letter:

"It had been my intention to advert to some of the more remarkable triumphs of horticulture in heightening the beauty of flowers and improving the quality of fruits, and thence to draw encouragement for those who follow this pursuit in our own country. The favorite varieties of cherry in France and England decay for the most part the instant they ripen in the warm and often showery weather of our June and the beginning of July, and we have yet to acquire varieties suited to our climate which will preserve their freshness a reasonable time after maturity. The apricot blossoms are so often nipped by the spring frosts that they can never be relied on to produce fruit, and we have yet to inquire whether more hardy or at least later blooming varieties could not be found on the declivities of Lebanon, or farther north on the skirts of Caucasus, which are in some places covered in large tracts with apricot trees."

"I intended to have given some facts from my own observation to show that the grape of Europe in its natural state is not by any means the agreeable fruit which we find it in the cultivated varieties. From these and from the tendency of our native grape to run into innumerable varieties, I thought it might be reasonably expected that we should yet produce, on vines of a hardier and more luxuriant growth, native grapes in every respect rivaling one of the old world. I might also show how the American gooseberry naturally passes into varieties very different from each other, and from this to infer the improbability of the fruit to such a degree that we might hope to produce it of as large a size and as fine a flavor as that of England, yet free from the mildew which attacks the English gooseberry in our climate."

The fruit of the American blackberry is naturally of a finer flavor than the European, and greatly varies in quality even in the fields. We may yet have as many varieties of this fruit as the raspberry. No attempt, I believe, has been made to improve the fruit of the American plum, whether the Chickasaw, the red or the beach plum, while the art of the gardener has been exhausted in obtaining from the plum of the old world varieties most remarkably different in size and flavor, from the little mirabelle, of the size of a bullet, to the magnum bonum, vicing in dimensions with the peach. If the custard apple of the west had been a native of Europe, can we suppose it would not have been brought into the gardens centuries ago, cultivated with care, rendered prolific, improved in size and flavor, and made a common table fruit in its season?

One of the most splendid of garden flowers is the pansy. Its parent is the little three-colored violet of Europe, pretty, but too small to be conspicuous. By crossing it with other species of the violet and pampering the hybrid plant, a dazzling combination of glowing colors has been produced, the stalks have become tall and the petals broad. We have among the flowers of our own field a little white violet of intense fragrance. By the same process of hybridization it is probable that its size might be enlarged and its fragrance retained, and a new ornament be added to our gardens.

We have other beautiful flowers in our forests and fields for which art has yet done nothing to make their bloom less transient. In the prairies of the west flourish bulbous plants worthy of a place on our window sills in March, with that of the hyacinth and the Syrian anemone.

These are some of the topics on which I intended to dwell, and I mention them now because it seems to me that as suggestions of what may yet be accomplished in horticulture, they may be considered as not entirely without value."

The Currant and Raspberry.

Considering the value of these fruits and the ease with which they may be produced, they are too much neglected. In the vicinity of large cities they are extensively cultivated for market, but the people of the interior, especially farmers, do not pay the attention to them that would be for their interest and comfort. The currant is everywhere hardy and more uniformly prolific, perhaps, than any other fruit. Even left as we usually see it in the country,—its roots bound with grass, the bushes unpruned, standing for years on the same soil unmanured and uncultivated,—the annual crop of fruit is certain, though less in

quantity and of poorer quality than it would be under proper management. It is a wholesome and not unpalatable fruit. When well ripened, it is no mean auxiliary to the dessert, and by the aid of sugar furnishes an excellent sauce. It is "in season" a long time, is free from insects, and good from first to last. It may be dried and kept through the year; it is easily and cheaply made into a jelly, which every good house wife, as well as her guests knows the value of; and it can be made into a cheap and pleasant wine, to be taken "for the stomach's sake," or otherwise.

There are several varieties of the currant differing considerably in their properties.—The following are some of the most noted:

Red Dutch.—Rather larger than the common red, the wood stouter, and the shrub less in height. The clusters of fruit large, and it is not so acid as the common kind.

Knight's Sweet Red.—This is a valuable kind, produced by that well-known experimenter, the late T. A. Knight. It is not, as some would suppose from the name, a sweet currant, but about as acid as the White Dutch. The fruit is larger and the clusters as long as the Red Dutch, and it is as productive as any kind.

The Cherry Currant is an Italian variety which has been lately introduced here. The fruit is very large, the clusters short, and it is rather unproductive. It is the most acid of all currants.

Mary's Victoria is a new red variety, chiefly valuable on account of its being later than any other.

The White Dutch is a handsome and productive variety. It is less acid than red varieties, excepting Knight's, and is prized on this account.

The raspberry is not as hardy as the currant, though several varieties are not difficult of cultivation. It is adapted to the same uses as the currant, and like that, comes in just after the strawberry. We have two species indigenous to the country, viz: the Black or Purple, (thimble berry) and the Red. The former has broken into some varieties, as the Ohio Ever-bearing—so called from its habit of fruiting, more or less, for several weeks,—and the white or straw colored.

The Native Black raspberry improves greatly by cultivation; the fruit is increased in quantity, enlarged, and made much more juicy and better flavored. It is a rampant grower, and when placed in the middle of the garden, untrained, it occupies too much room. It may be trained to a fence or trellis, or allowed to grow on a low wall. Its branches will take root if allowed to reach the ground. It may be made to propagate itself rapidly by layers.

The Native Red is unworthy of cultivation. It is not readily kept within bounds, on account of its numerous spreading roots which throw up stalks. The fruit, from its softness, is quickly perishable, will not bear transportation, and is very subject to an insect. It grows in great quantities on many of the half-wild pastures of New England, and when it can be picked and used in a fresh state, it is very good.

The European varieties are numerous.—Several of these are really delicious. The favorite varieties in this vicinity are these:

Franconia.—This is hardy and prolific—much liked as a market fruit, from its firmness, and successive ripening.

Fastolf.—A new English variety of large size and fine flavor, but, judging from what we have seen, not as productive as some.

Knevet's Giant.—A large, early variety, of superior flavor, and tolerably hardy.

Red Antwerp.—The true Red Antwerp is a very fine sort; the fruit large, conical, and the flavor unsurpassed for richness. The common kind which passes under this name is quite inferior, the fruit smaller and flattened in shape.

Yellow Antwerp.—This is a showy fruit, the flavor sweet, and very agreeable to some palates. It is not so firm as some other kinds, and not so valuable for marketing. Both this and the Red Antwerp are more inclined to sucker and spread than the kinds above mentioned, which is an objection to them.

We shall not speak of the modes of cultivating the currant and raspberry in this article. They can be learned from the fruit books, a copy of at least one of which should be in the possession of every family which occupies a rod of ground. We will just mention; however, that in New England and the northern part of the country generally, it is best to bury raspberry canes during winter. It is simply necessary to bend them down and cover them with an inch or two inches of earth. It should be done in November, and the canes should not be taken up till freezing weather is past.

—*Boston Cultivator.*

Budding.

The period of inoculating having arrived, a hint to amateurs and others on the selection and preparation of buds for the operation will be seasonable. Rules for securing a successful union with the stock are abundant; but how to prepare a bud so as to make it shoot strongly the next season, is not so often noticed, and the consequence is that of many buds which the operator succeeds in getting to

"take," many of them either remain entirely dormant, or shoot very weakly the next season. Whenever practicable the shoot selected to supply the buds, should have its point taken out by the finger and thumb, a week or so before required for use; this gives the buds a plumpness and imbues them with a latent principle of activity which aids them in starting its growth. To stop them too long a time—several weeks before use—would induce them to break soon after budding, which is frequently an injury, as the roots so made are apt to get winter killed; besides, in the case of fruit trees where a clear strait stem is desirable, the shoot is apt to grow crooked. In budding, the branch or stock should be headed back immediately after the operation, in proportion to the fulness of the bud inserted. A full or plump bud requiring scarcely any; one scarcely visible, on the contrary, may be cut well back.—*Horticult.*

Lice on Fruit Trees.

Farmers are continually complaining of the lice and aphides and borers, that live on their fruit trees. Many are now making inquiries as if it were a new thing to find insects and grubs on trees.

Why do they not pay more attention to the statements of those who have devoted years to this matter and have found out the ways and habits of these depredators?

We have not the least trouble with any of these animalcule on any of our trees, and we have not less than five hundred trees that have been set in orchards within half a dozen years.

The bark of all these is fresh and lively, and the trees actually grow yearly. Pigs, hens and digging about the roots will kill the canker worm and also the apple worm, both of which are found to burrow in the ground in summer. Borers are killed by a wash of strong ley. So are flax colored lice on the bark. Aphides which infest the most tender shoots in a nursery, are killed by a dip into a pan of whale oil soap suds. Bend the top of the young tree down into the liquid so as to let the lice on the under side of the leaf have a taste.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

Turnips.

We have obtained a very good growth of turnips, sown as late as the first of September, and fair crops may be expected from seed sown by the 15th or 20th of this month. Next to ruta baga's one of the best varieties is the yellow Aberdeen, growing almost as large and nearly equaling it in nutritious qualities, and also the time to which it may be kept. To preserve the young plants from the fly it has been proposed to smear the seed with fish oil, but the best protection after all is rapid growth. This is to be secured by a thorough preparation of the ground and by a subsequent liberal application of stimulating manure, such as Peruvian guano, superphosphate of lime, or well rotted compost or liquid manure. The late sowing that the Aberdeen will bear, makes it less liable to injury from fly.

Next to these varieties we rank the strap leaf red top, which may be sown eight or ten days later, while the purple top ranks fourth, and may be sown as late as the first week in September.

All varieties of turnips are benefitted by frequently stirring the soil between the rows, until the leaves become too large to allow of it with safety.—*Am. Ag.*

FALL TURNIPS.—This is an important crop, and it should not be overlooked by farmers. A sufficient quantity of fall turnips can generally be obtained from headlands, moist places in cornfields when the crop is thin, and generally among corn when its growth is not too large and the crop is not planted too closely. From the 20th of July to the 15th of August is the best time to sow. If the land is plowed ten days before sowing, the better, as the turnip fly is by that means destroyed. The ground should be well prepared, and manured with guano or super-phosphate of lime. The Purple Top turnip is in our judgment decidedly the best, and if the seed be drilled in rows thirty inches apart, and the plants thinned out to six inches apart, an abundant crop of fine large turnips may be calculated on.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

Wine making is getting to be a profitable business in Lower California, where the vineyards are extensive. One proprietor last year had twenty-five thousand bottles of wine from his vineyard, and this year he expects a greater yield.

Budding.

If trees are young and very thrifty, as is the case in well managed nurseries, the first of August is about the time for budding, though something depends on the season as to forwardness, and the state of the weather as to drought and moisture, cold and heat. Some times from cold and drought, trees will cease growing much earlier than in more favorable seasons, as from heat and rain they may grow longer than usual.

The cherry should be budded first, and then the plum, pear and apple in order. In some seasons the apple may be budded until nearly the last of August, but generally it should be done earlier. Peach trees of one year's growth should be budded in this climate, from the first to the middle of September; older trees, if not very thrifty, the last of August or the first of September. But if dry, cold weather succeeded late budding, as is often the case, there will be a general failure.

Pieces of matting, or the inner bark of the bass (Linden) tree are generally tied round the stock enclosing the bud in the bark. As some persons have found it difficult to loosen the bandage on the stock at the proper time, it is desirable to have some elastic substance that may remain on without injury. If the matting be not loosened in time it will bind the stock and bud to their injury, and in some cases if it be loosened too soon, the bark of the stock will open and the bud will be lost.

Budding and Grafting.

Budding and grafting have been practiced by gardeners from remote antiquity, as a means of changing the products of trees and shrubs to those of a kindred character. In each method the living shoot or bud of the one variety is inserted in, and made to become a part of the other, and there produces the same fruit it would have done in its original or native position, with perhaps, some slight modification. Varieties of the same species, unite most freely, the species of the same genus, and general of the same natural family but the greater the affinity between the bud or graft, and the stock, the more successful the operation. Thus among fruit trees, the Apple, Crab, Pear, Quince, and Mountain Ash, may be worked upon each other; the Plum, Apricot, Nectarine and Peach, form another natural division, and may be worked upon each other. This general rule, however, has exceptions; thus the wild and the cultivated cherries do not agree, though of the same species, and the Pear and the Quince, though more distantly related than the Pear and the Apple, much better agree with other; perhaps from like firmness and texture of wood, which is very important to success in grafting.

The operation of budding is simple and easily performed—much more so than than of grafting—but each has its advantages, varying with the character of the stock and the object sought to be attained. Thrifty, free growing stocks alone admit of budding, while grafting best succeeds on those of slower growth. In the Peach and Nectarine budding seldom fails, and grafting rarely succeeds. Budding is performed rapidly, and may be repeated the same season if not successful in the first instance, and without injury to the stock. But grafting requires less care subsequently; so the nature of the tree and the convenience of the gardener or nurseryman should both be consulted. It may be added that in moist climates or seasons, grafting is generally most successful. *Rural New Yorker.*

WATER MELON JUICE.—A correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer* presents the following method of using water melons:

I endeavor every year to raise a good water melon patch; they are a healthy and delightful fruit, I think. I cultivate the icing variety—plant early in May, and again towards the close of the month so that they come in succession. When they commence ripening, we commence cutting, and use them freely during the hot weather. When the weather becomes cool in September we haul a quantity of them to the house, split them open, and with a spoon scrape out the pulp into a colander, then strain the water into vessels. We boil it in an iron vessel into a syrup, then put in apples or peaches, like making apple butter; boil slowly until the fruit is well cooked, then spice to taste, and you have something most people will prefer to apple butter or any kind of preserves. Or the syrup may be boiled, without fruit, down to molasses, which will be found to be as fine as sugar molasses. We have made, in one fall, as much as ten gallons of the apple butter, if I may so call it, and molasses, which has kept in a fine condition until May.

MELON BUGS.—The *Maine Farmer* has the following: "Reader, are you ever troubled with that terrible pest, the melon or squash bug? You need not be. Get 4 lbs. quassia chips and pour four gallons of boiling water over them in a barrel. Cover to keep in the steam and stand 12 hours; then fill the barrel and water daily. Bugs don't like bitters."

The *Bangor Whig* endorses the above, and adds: A friend here guarantees the correctness of the statement, and informs us that an occasional application of the decoction, say once a week to his rose bushes has enabled him, for two seasons, to preserve their foliage from the insects which infest them. It will operate both as a prevention and cure."

Bargains and Trade.

Every farmer ought to be so much of a business man as to turn his earnings to good account. Some are always "under the weather," not so much for lack of industry as of calculation. Some others have frequent difficulties with those with whom they have business, and arrive at the conclusion, that the whole world is dishonest; whereas, the fault is mainly with themselves. Yet a few examples, thoroughly observed, will go very far towards helping any one to do his business, in a way that shall be satisfactory both to himself, and others.

1. Try to have every thing you would sell, of the best quality. Your wheat well cleaned; your pork and beef well fattened; butter well worked, and sweet; and cheese so yielding, as not to break a hatchet in cutting it. Try to get, and keep the best horses, cattle and sheep, at least of the common kinds.

2. When you sell, tell the proposed purchaser, just what the good qualities and defects of the creature, or article are. In nine cases out of ten it will save you both time, and money.

A man of sense, *who is sure* that he knows precisely what he is buying, will pay a round price; whereas, if he suspects, that in some way he will be deceived, he will either refuse to buy, or guard himself by offering a lower price. "Honesty is the best policy."

3. Unless you are *really* a far seeing, independent farmer, who if you please can hold on, one two, or five years even, for your price, sell when you can get a *fair price, and sure pay*. It is bad policy, to sell on credit to a slack or doubtful man, and the history of forty years will show, that two lose, to where one gains, by holding on in order to get the very top of the market. If your neighbor does this, and beats you this season, never mind it, keep cool and in due time the tables will be turned.

4. If you mean to be a substantial farmer, beware, of getting the name of being *keen and sharp for a trade*. Now young men, my head is gray, and during the last 40 years, I have become acquainted with the history and character of many busi-

ness men. I will not now argue the morality of my position. This you admit. I now present it only in the light of comfort and profit. Never get the name of being sharp for a bargain. The only way to avoid it, is, not to be sharp. I will tell you. A sharp fellow, often loses a dollar while contriving to get a sixpence. The time he spends in trying to secure something beyond just the fair thing, is worth more than what he gets. When you have cut to the quick, a few of your neighbors in this way, you will find, somehow that they neither care much for you, nor your trades. My rule, and that of thousands of others, is, when I have once been taken in by such a man, never if I can avoid it, to deal with him again. A sharp fellow before he is aware of it, is a marked man. He loses vastly more than he gains.

5. Be careful not to be higgling and mean. You cannot take too much pains to become a judge of the quality and price of every thing that you have any occasion to buy or sell. When you have learned this, then, if you purchase, you will not be imposed upon. When you sell, you will know what price to set, and not fall from it. But when you have sold a cow, for all she is worth, do not make the purchaser pay you a shilling for a rope to lead her. Do the "fair thing," so that he will not be afraid to call again.

6. Never partly make a bargain, and leave it unfinished, or doubtful, as to your intentions. I have known men to say just enough, to claim a bargain if times go favorable, or to have an excuse for backing out, if they choose. If there be an offence for which I would send a man to work a month on the tread mill, it is this.

Says such a man, "I like your horse, and have pretty much concluded to take him at your price, but I will see you again," "Well, I am to be seen, but if I have an offer before you are out of sight, I shall sell him." "Well, won't you keep him for me unless somebody will pay more?" "No sir, I do not ask any more, and shall sell him the first opportunity." Now my young friend, shun all such tricks, as you would the cholera. If you have a thought of thriving by higgling and trickery, and meanness, you may conclude, that as it is

mean you cannot respect yourself,—it is wrong and wicked, and whatever you may hope, it will not pay.

7. Cheap pennyworths obtained by running from store to store, to make cheap purchases, beating down prices; and telling what you have done, or can do at other stores, will not pay. Merchants are used to all this. If you are a troublesome customer they will accommodate you by setting prices for you, or your "better half," to beat down, and intend not only that you shall pay as much profit as a quiet customer, but also that you shall pay them for their extra trouble in suiting you. If you find a merchant who deals honestly and fairly by you, though you do pay sometimes a half cent a pound more for brown sugar or saleratus, never mind; you will find it most profitable in the long run, to deal with him. But if he is not honest, never flatter yourself that you can keep him straight. Leave him quietly and try elsewhere. Never "Jew" or banter your merchant. If he be the right man he will set the fair price at first; and if he be not leave him. This rule of course has its limitations, but my experience for many years, of taking or leaving, and never "Jewing," has saved both me and the merchants much vexations; and I have been able to purchase as low as the sharpest and shrewdest, and a little lower. —Michigan Farmer.

The Family Circle.

Conducted by

Mrs. MARY ABBOTT.

Home Education of Little Ones.

Every mother can do much towards educating her own children without the aid of schools, and without interfering with her other domestic duties, while she will be securing their unbounded confidence, which is of the greatest importance to her own future happiness, and theirs also. While very young, she can have them around her, and as they are always asking questions, she can give them intelligent answers, and convey to them much general intelligence before they are old enough to begin with book learning.

We have seen the following plan tried in several young families of our acquaintance with great success, but it requires much love and patience to succeed:

While the mother of the young family has her own work to do, she can employ and instruct her children at the same time. In the morning, while she is at work, she can let a little daughter of seven bring and carry little things for her, and thus save her many steps; a little son of five can fill the wood box with chips; another of three can rock the cradle, and all are kept out of mischief and harm, while they are becoming intelligent, are learning to be industrious and help themselves and each other. If the mother is willing to take a little pains she will be surprised to find how useful these little ones can be made, and how intelligent they will grow from day to day. If she has the patience to answer their questions properly, and explain to them what she is doing she will find they will not make her much trouble or be likely to get into mischief, while they will be acquiring much useful information.

When she sits down to her sewing, instead of being on the lookout for her little ones, she can have them by her, without fear of waking the baby, by paying some little attention to them. If none of them can read, let them have blocks with the figures and alphabet on them. Let them build whatever they please, then let the mother bid one of the little ones bring her a block with a figure or letter, tell all to look at it, and call it by name, she asking them two or three times what it is, bid the child put it back in the same place. then call another to bring a different letter or figure. Let all name that; going on in this way till they have brought all the blocks to the mother and returned them.

While they are in this way building up and taking down their blocks they will learn the letters and figures in a few days with very little trouble to her. When one can read a little let that one read a lesson, then the mother should put out words to spell to each one, then ask them questions on the

lesson. In this way she can teach her own children, without taking a book in her hand or being detained from her ordinary work. We have seen it tried, and know if mothers are willing to take pains with their children, they can do much towards their education before they go to school, besides teaching lessons of industry and order, thus making them cheerful and happy and laying up a good foundation for time to come, and when they are old they will not depart from it, but will rise up and call her blessed.

Strong Minded Women.

We are sorry to have to announce that some ladies—we cannot call them ture women,—of our city have set themselves up as public lecturers. We certainly feel indignant at such an outrage upon feminine sensitiveness and modesty. We do not countenance such conduct in any woman, especially in the married. If they must lecture, let it be done through their husbands, for modesty's sake. We would advise them to exchange clothes with their husbands, whom they have left in the background, drop the Mrs. and take up the Mr. Cannot their husbands maintain them in a decent, honest way, without making public shows of them? We think things have come to a deplorable pass, when men are willing to see their own wives addressing a public and promiscuous assemblage, because she can make more money at that than she can in her own proper and womanly sphere. Who does not know that the vilest of the vile will go anywhere to gaze at a woman? Even the poor drunkard himself will stagger off to see the unnatural phenomenon of a woman lecturer, and a crowd as big as the boldest and most conceited could desire would be called together, not to hear, but to see such a wonderful spectacle. The licentious and the vile would come from all quarters, not for good, but to gratify an impure curiosity. Have we not plenty of good men, who are able and willing to lecture and preach, without woman going against Bible, nature,

modesty and custom, and making herself a wonder to the world? We do not see what object any woman can have in view, unless it be getting together a greater crowd, and thereby getting more money, or to gratify her own vanity by showing off to a gaping and gazing crowd her wonderful talents.

What man, who loves his wife, would be willing to see her standing before a crowd of men, subject to their loose remarks, ridicule and the jesting of the impure and licentious? We were in hopes that these foolish notions would be confined to the old lady who brought them here, and that she would not succeed in leading others out of their proper sphere and duty, but it seems there is one foolish enough to be led.

We will enumerate some of the wonders of these strong-minded women, as St. Paul gave a list of sins and graces. The list of absurdities is fast being filled up. First, the woman lecturer or preacher, then the public rider, then the "baby show," or "lady show" as many called it, and now we have a "fool-race" in which women are to figure. It seems that these strong-minded women are getting along with railroad speed.

These fast woman cannot be so slow as to turn their attention to domestic affairs; making and mending will not be fast business enough for them, and the memory of good Dorcas will be held in contempt. The good deeds of Dorcas will be nothing compared to the wonderful achievements of the strong-minded women of the present day. For our part we are willing to try and walk in the footsteps of a Dorcas, and ask no higher praise than the poor gave of her, "Behold the coats and garments that Dorcas hath made."

A BEAUTIFUL ALLEGORY.—A traveler who spent some time in Turkey, relates a beautiful parable, which was told him by a dervise, and which seemed even more beautiful than Sterne's celebrated figure of the accusing spirit and recording angel. "Every man," says the dervise, "has two angels, one on his right shoulder, and another on his left. When he does anything good, the angel on his right shoulder

writes it down and seals it, because what is done is done forever. When he has done evil, the angel on his left shoulder writes it down. He waits till midnight. If before that time the man bows down and exclaims, "Gracious Allah! I have sinned, forgive me!" the angel rubs it out; and if not, at midnight he seals it, and the angel upon the right shoulder weeps."

The Sainted Dead.

They are our treasures—changeless and shining treasures. Let us look hopefully. Not lost, but gone before. Lost, only like stars of the morning, that have faded into the light of a brighter heaven. Lost to earth, but not to us. When the earth is dark, then the heavens are bright; when objects around become indistinct and invisible in the shades of night, then objects above us are more clearly seen. So is the night of sorrow and mourning; it settles down upon us like a lonely twilight at the grave of our friends, but then already they shine on high. While we weep, they sing. While they are with us upon earth, they lie upon our hearts refreshingly, like the dew upon the flowers; when they disappear, it is by a power from above that has drawn them upward; and though lost on earth, they still float in the skies. Like the dew that is absorbed from the flowers, they will not return to us; but like the flowers themselves, will die, yet only to bloom again in the Eden above. Then those whom the heavens have absorbed and removed from us, by the sweet attraction of their love, made holier and lovelier in light, will draw towards us again by holy affinity and rest on our hearts as before. They are our treasures—loving ones—the sainted dead!—*Harbough's Heavenly Recognition.*

The Duties of a Mother.

She should be firm—gentle—kind—always ready to attend to her child.

She should never laugh at him—at what he does that is *cunning*—never allow him to think of his looks, except to be neat and clean in all his habits.

She should teach him to obey a look—to respect those older than himself; she should never make a *command*, without seeing that it performed in the right manner.

Never speak of a child's faults, or foibles, or repeat his remarks before him. It is a *sure* way to spoil a child.

Never reprove a child when excited, nor let your tone of voice be raised when correcting him. Strive to inspire love, not dread—respect, not fear. Remember you are training and educating a soul for Eternity.

Teach your child to wait upon itself,—to put away a thing when done with it. But do not forget that you were once a child. The

grievings of little ones are too often neglected; they are great for them. Bear patiently with them and never in any way rouse their anger, if it can be avoided. Teach a child to be useful, *whenever* opportunity may offer.

Baby Life.

Who has not slept on a mother's lap?—Who has not loved a mother's smile? Who has not looked to that mother for kind words, for sympathy, for guidance through life? Yet who knows the mother's task work? Only a mother. There lies her darling infant smiling and apparently happy. Its cheeks are round, peach color and beautiful. Its dreams we may imagine are sweet, but the are beyond comprehension. The mother, however, can interpret them. She speaks to her child in a language which no philosopher can translate. Her smiles and her talk to that gift from God can electrify the coldest heart.—Baby-life is a great, as well as solemn lesson. It teaches more than books. It shows us that innocence, and happiness, and love are to be found in this task-work. The mother will risk all for her child. She has courage to do any great deed to save its life. Sublimity cannot go beyond her thought and high daring! But after all it is but a short jump from the cradle to the grave. We may dissect human character with our scalpal-pen to-day, but oh, great truism, the carcass is gone to-morrow! Cradled amidst joy, we depart amidst tears. Yet how sweet is baby-life! Would not we who are beyond it, give all that we possess to return to it once more? It is the golden year of our existence, as the angels of heaven well know.

KINDNESS.—Would it not please you to pick up strings of pearls, drops of gold, diamonds, and precious stones as you pass along the street? It would make you feel happy for a month to come. Such happiness you can give to others. How, do you ask? By dropping sweet words, kind remarks, and pleasant smiles as you pass along. These are true pearls and precious stones, which can never be lost; of which none can deprive you; speak to that orphan child; see the diamonds drop from her cheeks. Take the hand of that friendless boy; bright pearls flash in his eyes. Smile on the sad and dejected; a joy suffuses his cheek more brilliant than the most precious stones. By the way side, 'mid the city's din, and at the fire-side of the poor dweller, words and smiles to cheer and bless. You will feel happier when resting upon your pillow at the close of the day, than if you had picked a score of perishing diamonds. The latter fade and crumble in time; the former grow brighter with age, and produce happy reflections forever.

OUR HOUSES.—We always look upon our houses as mere temporary lodgings. We are always hoping to get larger and finer ones, or are forced some way or other to live where we do not choose, and in continual expectation of changing our place of abode. In the present state of society, this is in a great measure unavoidable; but let us remember it is an evil, and that so far as it is unavoidable, it becomes our duty to check the impulse.

It is surely a subject for serious thought, whether it might not be better for many of us, if, in attaining a certain position in life, we determined with God's permission, to choose a house in which to live and die—a home not to be increased by adding stone to stone and field to field, but which, being enough for all our wishes at that period, we should be resolved to be satisfied with forever. Consider this, and also, whether we ought not to be more in the habit of seeking honor for our descendants than for our ancestors; thinking it better to be nobly remembered than nobly born; and, striving to live that our sons, and our sons' sons, for ages to come, might still lead their children reverentially to the doors out of which we have been carried to the grave, saying, "Look, this was his house; this was his chamber."—*Ruskin.*

TO CRYSTALLIZE FLOWERS.—The experiment is simple and can be tried without difficulty. Dissolve eighteen ounces of pure alum in a quart of soft spring water (observing proportion for a greater or less quantity), by boiling it gently in a close tinned vessel, over a moderate fire, keeping it stirred with a wooden spatula, until the solution is complete.

When the liquor is almost cold, suspend the subject to be crystallized, by means of a small thread or twine, from a loth or small stick laid horizontally across the aperture of a deep glass or earthen jar as being best adapted for the purpose, into which the solution must be poured, the respective articles should remain in the solution twenty-four hours; when they are taken out they are to be carefully suspended in the shade until they are perfectly dry. When the subjects to be crystallized are put into the solution while it is quite cold, the crystals are apt to be formed too large; on the other hand, should it be too hot, the crystals will be small in proportion. The best temperature is about 95 deg. of Fahrenheit's thermometer. Among vegetable specimens that may be operated on, are the moss rose of the gardens, ears of corn, especially millet seed, and bearded wheat, berries of the holly, fruit of the sloebush, the hyacinth, pink, foxe blossoms, ranunculus, garden daisy and a great variety of others; in fact, there are few subjects in the vegetable

world that are not eligible to this mode of preservation. The fitness of the solution for the purpose may be ascertained by putting a drop of it on a blade of grass, and seeing if it crystallizes as it cools, if so, the solution is sufficiently strong. Then twist around a sprig of a plant, a sinder or wire ornament of any kind, some cotton; or still better, some worsted. After being immersed as already directed, the surface of the whole will be found covered with beautiful crystallizations.

PRESERVING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.—The present season is unusually productive of all kinds of fruits and vegetables. The markets are now or soon will be overburdened, and a superabundance of fruit will be found in almost every garden. Every housekeeper should be provided with a suitable number of fruit cans, and should put up a supply for the coming winter; and if, besides, a few dozen cans were preserved against a barren season, they would go far to relieve the disappointments arising from our fickle climate. The method of preserving fruits in air-tight vessels is comparatively new, and since its introduction it has been confined to a few individuals. In the method of preserving there is nothing mysterious. The fruit only requires to be sufficiently scalded to expel all the air contained in its cells, and to be put while hot, into the cans, which should be filled as full as possible without causing the syrup to interfere with the sealing or soldering. The safest method of putting up such fruit as berries, peaches, &c., is to place the cans in a vat or other vessel of boiling water; then scald or steam the fruit, fill the cans, and seal up immediately while hot. To preserve the color of hard peaches, when it is desired to have them whole, they should be thrown, when peeled into cold water until they are ready for scalding. If soft peaches are preferred, they may be cut up as if intended to be eaten with cream and need not be put into the water. When ready they should be treated as described above.

For some uses, it is better to add as much sugar to the fruit as will be required to prepare it for the table, first reducing it to a syrup, by boiling. It should be skimmed.

To preserve tomatoes, they should be more thoroughly boiled, in order to expel the excess of water.

Corn, beans, and other garden vegetables may be preserved in the same manner, only they require to be more thoroughly cooked than fruits.

TO RESTORE COLOR IN PRINTS.—A little alum dissolved in the rinse water will restore green or black. A little vinegar added to the rinse water will restore red. *Ohio Cult.*

Not Ashamed of Ridicule.

"I shall never forget a lesson which I received when quite a young lad at an academy in B—. Among my school-fellows were Hartly and Jemson. They were somewhat older than myself, and the latter I looked up to as a sort of leader in matters of opinion as of sport. He was not at heart malicious, but he had a foolish ambition of being thought witty and sarcastic, and he made himself feared by a besetting habit of turning things into ridicule, so that he seemed continually on the look-out for matters of derision.

Hartly was a new scholar, and little was known of him among the boys. One morning as we were on our way to school he was seen driving a cow along the road toward a neighboring field. A group of boys, among whom was Jemson, met him as he was passing. The opportunity was not to be lost by Jemson. "Halloa!" he exclaimed; "what's the price of milk? I say, Jonathan, what do you fodder boons? What will take for all the gold on her horns? Boys, if you want to see the latest à Paris style, look at those boots."

Hartly, waving his hand at us with a pleasant smile, and driving the cow to the field, took down the bars of a rail fence, saw her safely in the enclosure, and then putting up the bars, came and entered the school with the rest of us. After school in the afternoon she let out the cow and drove her off, none of you knew where. And every day for two or three weeks, he went through the same task.

The boys of—Academy were nearly all the sons of wealthy parents, and some of them, among whom was Jemson, were dunces enough to look down with a sort of disdain upon a scholar who had to drive a cow. The sneers and jeers of Jemson were accordingly often renewed. He once, upon a plea that he did not like the odor of the barn, refused to sit next to Hartly. Occasionally he would inquire after the cow's health, pronouncing the word "ke-ow," after the manner of some of the country people.

With admirable good nature did Hartly bear all these silly attempts to wound and annoy him. I do not remember that he was even once betrayed into a look or word of retaliation. "I suppose, Hartly," said Jemson, one day, "I suppose your lady intends to make a milkman of you." "Why not?" asked Hartly. "O nothing; only don't leave much water in the cans after you rinse them—that's all!" The boys laughed, and Hartly, not in the least mortified, replied, "Never fear; if ever I rise to be a milkman, I'll give good measure and good milk."

The day after this conversation, there was a public exhibition, at which a number of ladies and gentlemen from other cities were

present. Prizes were awarded by the Principal of our Academy, and both Hartly and Jemson received a creditable number; for, in respect to scholarship, these two were about equal. After the ceremony of distribution, the Principal remarked, that there was one prize, consisting of a medal, which was rarely awarded, not so much on account of its great cost, as because the instances were rare which rendered its bestowal proper. It was the prize for heroism. The last boy who received one was young Manners, who three years ago, rescued the blind girl from drowning.

The Principal then said that with the permission of the company, he would relate a short story. "Not long since, some scholars were flying a kite in the street, just as a poor boy on horseback rode by on his way to mill. The horse took fright and threw the boy, injuring him so badly that he was carried home, and confined some weeks to his bed. Of the scholars who had unintentionally caused the disaster, none followed to learn the fate of the wounded boy. There was one scholar who had witnessed the accident from a distance, who not only went to make inquiries, but stayed to render services.

This scholar soon learned that the wounded boy was the grandson of a poor widow, whose sole support consisted in selling the milk of a fine cow of which she was the owner. Alas! what could she now do? She was old and lame, and her grandson on who she depended to drive the cow to pasture, was now on his back, helpless. "Never mind, good woman," said the scholar, "I can drive the cow!" With blessings and thanks the old woman accepted his offer.

But his kindness did not stop here. Money was wanted to get articles from the apothecary. "I have money that my mother sent me to buy a pair of boots with; but I can do without them for a while." "O, no," said the old woman; "I can't consent to that; but here is a pair of cow-hide boots that I bought for Henry, who can't wear them. If you would only buy these, giving us what they cost, we should get along nicely." The scholar bought the boots, clumsy as they were, and has worn them up to this time.

Well, when it was discovered by other boys of the Academy that our scholar was in the habit of driving a cow, he was assailed with laughter and ridicule. His cow hide boots in particular were made matter of mirth. But he kept on cheerfully and bravely, day after day, never shunning observation, and driving the widow's cow, and wearing his thick boots, contented in the thought that he was doing right, caring not for all the jeers and sneers that could be uttered. He never undertook to explain why he drove a cow; for he was not

inclined to make a vaunt of charitable motives, and furthermore, in his heart he had no sympathy with the false pride that could look with ridicule on any useful employment. It was by mere accident that his course of kindness and self-denial was yesterday discovered by his teacher.

"And now, ladies and gentleman, I appeal to you: was there not true heroism in this boy's conduct? Nay, Master Hartly, do not sink out of sight behind the black board! You are not afraid of ridicule, you must not be afraid of praise. Come forth, come forth Master Edward James Hartly, and let us see your honest face!"

As Hartly, with blushing cheeks made his appearance, what a round of applause in which the whole company joined, spoke the general approbation of his conduct! The ladies stood upon benches and waved their handkerchiefs. The old men wiped the gathering moisture from the corners of their eyes and clapped their hands. Those clumsy boots on Hartly's feet seemed prouder ornaments than a crown would have been on his head. The medal was bestowed on him amid general acclamation.

Let me tell a good thing of Jemson before I conclude. He was heartily ashamed of his ill-natured railway, and after we were dismissed, he went with tears in his eyes and tendered his hand to Hartly, making a handsome apology for his past ill manners. "Think no more of it, old fellow," said Hartly, with delightful cordiality; let us all go and have a ramble in the woods before we break up for vacation." The boys, one and all, followed Jemson's example; and then we set forth with hussars into the woods. What a happy day it was!

The Mental Faculties.

1. The perceptive faculties are those by which we become acquainted with the existence and qualities of the external world.

2. Consciousness is the faculty by which we become cognizant of the operations of our own minds.

3. Original suggestion is the faculty which gives rise to original ideas, occasioned by the perceptive faculties or consciousness.

4. Abstraction is the faculty by which, from conceptions from individuals, we form conceptions of genera and species; or, in general classes.

5. Memory is the faculty by which we retain and recall our knowledge of the past.

6. Reason is the faculty by which, from the use of the knowledge obtained by the other faculties, we are enabled to proceed to other and original knowledge.

7. Imagination is the faculty by which, from

materials already existing in the mind, we form complicated conceptions or mental images, according to our own will.

8. Taste is the sensibility by which we recognise the beauties and deformities of nature or art, deriving pleasure from the one, and suffering pain from the other.—*Dr. Wyland.*

We copy from the Philadelphia Ledger the following simple directions for extracting the perfume of flowers:

Gather the flowers with as little stocks as possible, and place them in a jar three parts full of almond or olive oil. After being in the oil twenty-four hours, put them in a coarse cloth, and squeeze the oil from them. This process, with fresh flowers, is to be repeated according to the strength of the perfume desired. The oil being thus thoroughly perfumed with the volatile principle of the flowers, it is to be mixed with an equal quantity of pure rectified spirit, and shaken every day for a fortnight, when it might be poured off, ready for use. As the season for sweetscented blossoms is just approaching, this method may be practically tested, and without any great trouble or expense.

Real New England Brown Bread.

Take equal proportions of sifted rye and Indian meal, mix them well together; add half a teacupful of molasses and two gills of good yeast to about three quarts of the mixed meal. Wet this with good new milk, sufficient to make a dough that can be easily worked, even with one hand. For economy's sake, milk that has stood twelve hours, and from which the cream has been taken, may be substituted for the new milk; or water which has been pressed from boiled squashes, or in which squash has been boiled, is a substitute much better than pure water. But warm water is more commonly used. The ingredients should be thoroughly mixed, and stand, in cold weather, for twelve hours; in warm weather, two hours may be sufficient before baking.

If baked in a brick oven, a three quart loaf should stand in the oven all night. The same quantity in three baking pans will bake in about three hours.

Serve this warm from the oven, with good sweet butter, and we could fast upon it every morning for breakfast, from January to December.

To BOIL RICE.—Rice is one of those vegetables which is easily injured by poor cooking, and may be made really unpalatable by a little over-boiling. Rice should be carefully looked over and thoroughly washed in two or three waters. The kernel will then have a pearly lustre. It should be put into boiling

water in which a little salt has been thrown, and allowed to boil 15 or 17 minutes. The water should be drained off, and the kettle set back from the violent heat of the fire; when it has steamed in this way about 15 minutes, it will be perfectly soft, of snowy whiteness, and each kernel will retain its individuality, and not be lost in one solid mass of paste. A pint of rice may be boiled in three quarts of water.

A RICH BAKED CUSTARD.—Beat seven eggs with three tablespoonful of rolled sugar when beaten to froth, mix them with a quart of milk; flavor it with nutmeg or cinnamon; turn it into a pudding dish and bake, or else into deep pie plates, that have a lining and rim of pastry; bake them directly, in a quick oven. To ascertain when the custards are sufficiently baked, stick a clean broom splinter into them. If none of the custard adheres to the splinter, it is sufficiently baked.—*Ohio Farmer.*

TO PRESERVE SMOKED MEAT.—How often are we disappointed in our hopes of having sweet hams during the summer? After carefully curing and smoking, and when sewing them up in bags, and white-washing them, we find that either the fly has commenced a family in our hams, or that the choice parts round the bone are tainted, and the whole spoiled.

Now, this can be easily avoided by packing them in pulverized charcoal. No matter how hot the weather, nor how thick the flies, hams will keep sweet for years. The preservative quality of charcoal will keep them till charcoal itself decays.

Butter, too, put in a clean crock, and surrounded by pulverised charcoal, will never become rancid. Try it.—*Ex.*

A FAMILY SCENE.—"I have lost my whole fortune," said a merchant as he returned one evening to his home; "we can no longer keep our carriage, we must leave this large house. The children can no longer go to expensive schools. Yesterday I was a rich man—to-day there is nothing that I can call my own."

"Dear husband," said the wife, "we are still rich in each other and our children.—Money may pass away, but God has given us a better treasure in the active hands and the loving hearts."

"Dear father," said the children, "do not look so sober. We will help you get a living."

"What can you do, poor things?" said he.

"You shall see—you shall see," said several voices. "It is a pity if we have been to school for nothing. How can the father of eight children be poor? We shall work and make you rich again."

Such a wife and such children, are true riches to a man.

N. W. Fruit-Grower's Association.

We commend the following notice to the attention of our readers. We have a most abundant fruit crop this year and should send many specimens to the meeting. We will cheerfully attend to the forwarding of any packages which may be sent to us for that purpose:

BURLINGTON, IOWA, August, 1855.

The Annual Meeting of the North-Western Fruit Grower's Association will be held in this place on Tuesday, September 28th, 1855. and will continue in session four days.

This Association, organized for the purpose of facilitating and encouraging the propagation of Fruits and Fruit Trees in the North-Western States of the Union, and composed of Nurserymen and Fruit Growers from these States, earnestly solicits the favorable attention of all persons from the North-West, interested in the cause for which they will assemble.

It also solicits the attendance of all such persons from all parts of the Union, and requests them to furnish the Association with specimens of such fruits as are indigenous to, or cultivated in their respective localities, with contributions giving the experience of cultivators as to disease, destructive insects, &c., as may facilitate investigation, and add to the public information on these important topics.

In many portions of the Union the season has proved unusually propitious, and there will be a heavy yield of fruit. In others, frosts early in the season destroyed the hopes of cultivators. Those who have been successful in raising fruits will please forward specimens of their varieties to the Association at this place, care of E. E. GAY.

Carriage or freight, by Express, will be paid by the Association.

P. BARRY, Esq., of Rochester, N. Y., late Editor of the Horticulturist, and one of the most extensive and widely known Nurserymen and fruit raisers in the country, has kindly promised to be present and address the Association, and also to contribute specimens of the fruits of Western New York.

As Burlington is connected with St. Louis and Minnesota by means of the Mississippi river, and with Chicago and the East by Railroad, we indulge the hope that there will be a large attendance of persons interested in Fruit Growing from all sections of the country.

ABNER LEONARD,

G. C. NEALLEY,

H. AVERY,

E. E. GAY.

J. F. TALLANT.

Local
Committee of
Arrangements.